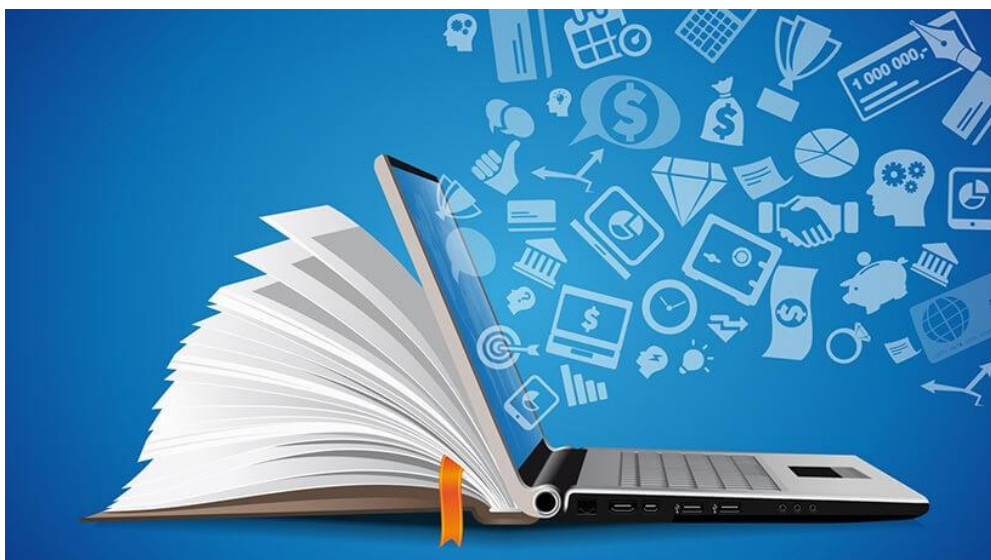


SIXTH FORM OPTIONS BOOKLET



Academic Year 2025 – 2026

We want every child in our Sixth Form to leave us after two years without any barrier to success, regardless of their aspirations.

We aspire to ensure our students get the best exam results possible and leave us empowered by the valuable transferrable skills they have acquired at TSPS.

Dear Parents and Students,

We are delighted to hear that you are considering The Sheffield Private School for the academic year of 2025-2026. We hope this booklet will guide you and your child through the process of choosing the best possible subject options in Post 16.

We are proud to offer a wide range of AS level qualifications, accredited by Cambridge International Exams (CIE) and the Edexcel and AQA examination boards. TSPS Sixth Form now offers a range of BTEC qualifications from the UK Pearson exam board. These are coursework-based routes to gaining Y12/13 level qualifications in many subjects.

All qualifications are recognised by schools, colleges, and universities internationally; this will enable all students to gain access to the best academic institutions in the world. As an international school, we understand the need to provide the highest possible level of education, leading to boundless opportunities for students in an increasingly globalised world. CIE is part of Cambridge Assessment, Europe's largest assessment agency and a department of the University of Cambridge. Edexcel is the UK's largest awarding body offering academic and vocational qualifications to schools, colleges, employers, and other places of learning. This booklet outlines subjects that are on offer; however, further details regarding each subject delivered at Key Stage 5 can be found online:

www.cie.org.uk www.aqa.org.uk
www.edexcel.com www.pearson.com

On page 38 of this booklet is a copy of the Year 12 '**Options Form**' which applicants are required to complete. Students are required to choose 5 subjects, in order of preference. Placement on each of the courses are dependent on students meeting the entry requirements, which are in clear comprehension on this booklet corresponding to each subject.

In addition, students will be asked to take part in **community service** schemes and sign up to **online courses** that are designed to enhance essential life skills. They will have the opportunity to tailor-fit work experience and online learning that suits them best. Please see the 'community service' and 'curriculum enrichment' section of this booklet on page 32 onwards for more information. These activities help the students to work towards the prestigious '**Duke of Edinburgh**' (**International**) **Award** scheme, which every Sixth Form student has an opportunity to gain during their time at TSPS Sixth Form. This year we have also introduced an optional qualification for gifted students, or those who gain 7 or more A/A* grades at IGCSE. The EPQ is worth one AS Level and is a university-style research project designed to develop your child's academic skills and prepare them well for life at a top University. The students can also undertake **termly careers mentoring sessions** with our career counsellor, as well as **1-1 half-termly coaching sessions** with a member of the Sixth Form team to help them make as much progress as possible.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to ask; I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,
Ms Praveena Sudheer
Vice Principal, Head of Secondary

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Introduction to TSPS Sixth Form

Our aim at TSPS is to have a fully inclusive Sixth Form, where every student is supported and given the opportunity to achieve their full potential, our focus will be letting them be the best versions of themselves. We provide our Sixth Form students with a stimulating, focused and a balanced curriculum, leading to qualifications that are accepted as the entry requirements for Higher Education.

At TSPS there is a wide range of options available with three academic pathways –

GCE Advanced Level (A levels) –

Students can choose to study maximum of four A level subjects and minimum of three A levels over Year 12 and 13. Students who want to study any extra subjects will need to have this agreed with the Head of Sixth Form.

BTEC level 3 qualifications –

Students can choose to study two/three BTEC courses. TSPS offers a range of BTEC qualifications from UK Pearson exam board. In Year 12, students will complete BTEC National Certificate and Year 13s BTEC National Subsidiary Diploma.

BTECs enable a learner-centred approach to education, with a flexible, unit-based structure and knowledge applied to project-based assessments. BTECs focus on the holistic development of the practical, interpersonal, and thinking skills required to be successful in employment and higher education. There are no external assessments and the student's complete assignments which are marked by the teacher and then externally verified.

A blended curriculum of A level and BTEC –

Our option blocks are designed so that students may study a combination of A level and BTEC courses. Students can select two A levels and two BTEC or one A level and three BTEC subjects.

All the above courses allow the student an access to universities in the UK, USA, Canada, Australia and elsewhere in the world, however students are well- advised to ensure their exit qualifications which will fulfil higher education requirements for their desired destination.

How to choose your subjects?

Choosing your A level subjects is an exciting time, you are narrowing down subjects from eight to three or four and it is the first time that you have a complete ownership of your curriculum.

Making the right choice of subjects at A Level can always be difficult and you should gather as much information as possible before you make any important decisions about where and what you wish to study. The following points maybe helpful for you to take into consideration:

- Aim to choose subjects that you enjoy and that you are good at. However, you should first bear in mind that the requirements for any career or further education opportunities that you think maybe of your liking. If you do not know what you want to do in the future, then it is sensible to keep as many avenues open as possible at this stage.
- Different courses demand varying skills and aptitudes. You should read carefully about each subject and, if necessary, seek further advice, before filling in your option form. You must meet the entry requirement criteria before you can be in consideration for a course.

Included in this booklet are outlines of the subjects that various departments hope to offer. It must be remembered that placements of these courses cannot be guaranteed. We will always do our best to give everyone their first choice, however, it may be impossible to provide every combination of

subjects. Sometimes there are too few students to run a particular course; occasionally there may even be too many students or inadequate number of teachers available to accommodate all requests. For these reasons it may be necessary for you to modify your choices in a later date. It is important that you attend your Sixth Form progression meeting in April where you will be able to discuss your preferred career plans with The Head of Sixth Form. We strive to give you sound advice for the future, ensure you get a clear direction if, for some reason, your combination of subjects needs to be revised.

Final decisions will be made, and courses are usually confirmed later in the Summer Term.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS for YEAR 12

For entry into Year 12, all students must:

1. Take a minimum of FOUR subjects at AS/BTEC Level in Year 12.
2. Achieve a minimum of five 9 to 6/ A* to C grades at IGCSE **and** a minimum of a 6/ B in the FOUR subjects selected to study for AS Level in Year 12.
3. Achieve a minimum of a 6/ B grade in Maths and English Language at IGCSE.
4. Have a proven and acceptable track record of behaviour, conduct and attendance in previous school years.
5. Accept that it is an expectation that any subject undertaken at AS level/BTEC will require you to complete the course to the end of the academic year. **It is now a legal requirement that students pass Y12 with 4 subjects and/or Y13 with 2 subjects.**
6. All students must adhere to the strict uniform code, which will be outlined when a place is offered.

If you do not meet the entry criteria, regrettably will not be offered a place in Year 12 at The Sheffield Private School.

Sixth Form Examination Fees -

Parents should note that fees for external A level examinations are the responsibility of the parent. Parents will receive an invoice for each examination cycle the student is entered for including resits. Students that require additional access arrangements during examinations will incur additional costs for invigilation.

BTEC

Registration fees for the BTEC courses are paid in full at the beginning of Year 12 for the full duration of the 2- year course. The fee charged will cover the entry fees for the course as well as moderator visits from the UK for each subject.

Accounting

Course Code: 9706

Exam Board: CIE

Entry Requirements: A minimum of at least 5 GCSEs at level 9-5 including a Level 6 in mathematics and Level 5 in English. While we assume that students have no knowledge of accounting before they start the course, good numerical skills are an advantage.

This course aims to develop your understanding and awareness of accounting and how different organisations and people use accounting information to make decisions. Over the two years of study students will gain insights into the role of an accountant, the types of business organisations as well as the double entry bookkeeping system. Students will learn about the preparation of financial statements for sole traders, companies and partnerships as well as undertaking budgetary preparation. Students will also be exposed to various Management Accounting concepts including standard costing, capital investment appraisal and marginal costing. Students will also gain an insight into the ethical considerations in accounting during their two years.

Assessment – For Cambridge International AS & A Level Accounting, candidates:

follow a staged assessment route by taking Papers 1 and 2 (for the Cambridge International AS Level qualification) in one series, then Paper 3 (for the Cambridge International A Level qualification) in a later series.

Paper 1 – Candidates answer 30 multiple choice questions on AS topics and weightage of this paper is 30% for AS level and 15% for A level.

Paper 2– Candidates answer 3 structures questions on AS topics and the weightage of this paper is 70% for AS level and 35% for A level.

Paper 3 – Candidates answer four structures questions on Financial accounting and two structured questions on cost and management accounting, weightage of this paper is 50% for A level.

Subjects that go well with Accounting –

Accounting combines well with several other subjects. The related disciplines of Business Studies, Economics, and Mathematics are obvious. Students looking for a broader programme have often included Accounting with the study of a language, or with science subjects; this approach mirrors some of the developments at university where language, science and engineering courses often include aspects of Business Management.

Career Prospects–

Certified Public Accountant (CPA), Certified Management Accountant (CMA), Certified Financial Manager (CFM), Certified Internal Auditor (CIA), Certified Financial Planner (CFP).

Art & Design

Course Code: 9479

Exam Board: CIE

Entry Requirements: Art and Design at IGCSE and will have achieved a grade 6 in order to continue to the A level course. Students who are coming from a different system may be considered at the discretion of the Head of Department. All students must have good drawing skills and may be asked to show a portfolio supporting their application.

Art and Design is a two-year course without the option of an AS level. This subject offers a particularly rich and diverse range of learning experiences. This syllabus will provide the opportunity to undertake a course of study which is broad, purposeful and relevant to the student's needs. Individual abilities and interests will be developed using a variety of materials, techniques and processes.

Assessment –

Cambridge International A level candidates take four components over two years. In AS level candidates take components 1 and 2, in A level, they take components 3 and 4 .

Component 1 – Coursework weighing 50% of the AS level and 25% of the A level.

Candidate's research, develop and realise a project from one area of study in the syllabus content. There are two parts of the coursework– a portfolio and an outcome.

Component 2 – Externally set assignment weighing 50% of the AS level and 25% of the A level.

There are two parts to the assignment: supporting studies, created during the preparation period and an outcome, produced during a supervised test of 15 hours' total duration.

Component 3 – Personal Investigation weighing 50% of the A level.

Candidates investigate a theme, idea, concept or process that is personal to them. There are two parts to the investigation: Practical work and written analysis.

Career Prospects–

Architect, Animator, Ceramics designer, Fine artist, Furniture designer, Graphic designer, Illustrator, Interface designer, Product designer, Make-up artist, Photographer, Publisher, Game designer, Printmaker, Production designer, Theatre, Television, Film Production, Art professor, Newspaper, Studio artist etc.

Biology

Course Code: XBI11 (IAS), YBI11 (IAL)

Exam Board: Edexcel

Entry Requirements: IGCSE: 6 in Biology / 6 in English Language / 5 in Mathematics

Biology at AS and A level covers a range of topics, it is a course which will develop essential knowledge and understanding of biological principles, concepts and fact. Over the two years it will promote an appreciation of the importance of experimental and investigation work in the study of Biology.

Course Content:

- *Unit1: Molecules, Diet, Transport and Health: (40% of IAS/20% of IAL)
- *Unit2: Cells, Development, Biodiversity and Conservation: (40% of IAS/20% of IAL)
- *Unit3: Practical Skills in Biology 1: (20% of IAS/10% of IAL)
- *Unit 4: Energy, Environment, Microbiology and Immunity: (20% of IAL)
- *Unit 5: Respiration, Internal Environment, Coordination and Gene Technology: (20% of IAL)
- *Unit 6: Practical Skills in Biology 2: (10% of IAL)
- *How Science works (HSW) is an integral part of all the three units.

Assessment–

- *All units are assessed by means of a written examination paper, lasting 1hr 30 min each (apart from unit 5 which is 1 hr 45 min).
- *Units 1, and 2 carry 80 marks each. Unit 3 carries 50 marks (IAS)
- *Units 4 and 5 carry 90 marks each. Unit 6 carries 50 marks (IAL)

*The exam papers will include- objective questions, structured questions and short answer questions.

* HSW will be assessed in the context of the unit content.

Career Prospects-

Medicine, Clinical Molecular Officer, Genetic Engineering, Veterinary Science, Medical Research, Forensic Science, Nursing, Marine Biology, Microbiologist, Radiologist and Environmental Biology.

Business Studies

Course Code: WBS11, WBS12 (IAS) WBS13, WBS14 (IAL)

Exam Board: Edexcel

Entry Requirements: IGCSE: 6 in English Language / 6 in Mathematics

The Edexcel A-level Business course introduces you to all you need to know about working in business, providing a solid foundation for further study. You will be communicating and explaining ideas, exploring and presenting alternative courses of action, thinking strategically and making decisions, working with numbers to solve business problems, keeping up to date with national and international business news and learning about the world of business through research and investigation. 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.

Course Content:

Unit 1: Business Enterprise - Introduces business practice, the importance of the market and how businesses interact with customers and competitors:(50% of IAS/25% of IAL)

***Unit 2: Business Structures and Processes** - Covers the key functional areas of a business. Students will develop their understanding of how businesses relate to their customers and analyse change in their markets: (50% of IAS/25% of IAL)

***Unit 3: Strategic Business Decisions** - This unit develops the content of Unit 2 and examines the competitiveness of businesses through performance and non-performance indicators. Students will analyse corporate objectives and strategy on the basis of these indicators and on external influences to businesses: (50% IAL)

***Unit 4: Business in a Global Context** - This synoptic unit focuses on the world of international business and considers change and growth in global economies. Students will examine the different factors businesses have to consider when operating in a global market. Students will also assess the impact of multinational corporations on the global economy: (50% IAL)

Assessment- Units 1 and 2 (IAS): 1 hr 30 min written examination (Section A 24 marks MCQ & Section B 56 marks, total of 80 MARKS). One for each unit.

Units 3 and 4 (IAL): 2 hour written examination (Section A 40 marks & Section B 40 marks on data-based questions). One for each unit

Career Prospects-

Marketing Manager, HR/ Personnel, Banker, Marketing Executive, Management Consultant, System Analyst, Operations Manager, Public relation Officer, Advertising, and Banking.

Chemistry

Course Code: XCH11 (IAS), YCH11 (IAL)

Exam Board: Edexcel

Entry Requirements: IGCSE: 6 in Chemistry / 5 in English Language / 5 in Mathematics

A chemistry qualification could open doors to all kinds of jobs that you may never have even imagined. The food we eat, the clothes we wear and the technology we use all depend on chemistry. Chemists develop new medicines, safeguard our food supply and monitor and protect the environment. You will study the breadth and depth of chemistry, from the mysterious places where electrons can be found to how scientists can identify traces of substances at crime scenes. There will be opportunities for practical work, ranging from making aspirin to forensic analysing techniques. After studying Advanced level chemistry, you will have an insight into how substances behave, no other subject can give you this depth of insight. You will build skills in teamwork, problem solving, analysis and communication, all of which are highly valued by employers.

Course Content:

- *Unit 1: Structure, bonding and Introduction to Organic Chemistry: (40% of IAS/20% of IAL)
- *Unit 2: Energetics, Group Chemistry, Halogenoalkanes and Alcohols: (40% of IAS/20% of IAL)
- *Unit 3: Practical Skills in Chemistry 1: (20% of IAS/10% of IAL)
- *Unit 4: rates, Equilibria and Further Organic Chemistry: (20% of IAL)
- *Unit 5: Transition Metals and Organic Nitrogen Chemistry: (20% of IAL)
- *Unit 6: Practical Skills in Chemistry 2: (10% of IAL)

Assessments-

- *All units are assessed by means of a written examination paper
- *Units 1, and 2 carry 80 marks each. Unit 3 carries 50 marks (IAS)
- *Units 4 and 5 carry 90 marks each. Unit 6 carries 50 marks (IAL)
- *The exam papers will include- objective questions, structured questions and short answer questions. HSW will be assessed in the context of the unit content.

Career Prospects- Biochemist, Chemist, Criminologist, Food and Drug Inspector, Chemical Analyst, Crime Lab Analyst, Physiotherapy, veterinary medicine, chemical engineering and many more.

Computer Science

Course Code: 7516 / 7517

Exam Board: AQA

Entry Requirements: IGCSE: 6 in Physics / 6 in Mathematics (Programming or GCSE Computer science knowledge will be an added advantage)

Computers are everywhere nowadays, supporting us in everything from how we conduct business to socialising. A Level Computer Science will allow you to explore the fundamentals of computing with hardware, looking at many aspects from how they work to how to effectively program them.

Course Content:

Fundamentals of programming, Fundamentals of data structures. Systematic approach to problem solving. Theory of computation. Fundamentals of data representation. Fundamentals of computer systems. Fundamentals of computer organisation and architecture. Consequences of uses of computing. Fundamentals of communication and networking.

	Paper 1 This paper tests a student's ability to program, as well as their theoretical knowledge of Computer Science	Paper 2 This paper tests the students understanding of the theoretical concepts from A level content above
AS level	50% from on-screen examination of 1 hour and 45 minutes	50% of paper-based examinations of 1 hour and 30 minutes
A level	40% from on-screen examination of 2 hours and 30 minutes	40% of paper-based examination of 2 hours and 30 minutes

NEA [Only for A levels] -

The non-exam assessment assesses student's ability to use the knowledge and skills gained through the course to solve or investigate a practical problem. Students will be expected to follow a systematic approach to problem solving. 75% marks, 20% of A-level

Career Prospects-

Computer Science will lead on to robotics, artificial intelligence, machine learning, cloud computing, big data processing, networking, ethical hacking, computer game development, home automation or even teaching

Economics

Course Code: WEC 12/01 (IAS), WEC 14/01 (IAL)

Exam Board: Edexcel

Entry Requirements: IGCSE: 6 in English Language / 6 in Mathematics

Course Content:

*Unit 1: Markets in Action – an introduction to the nature of economics and examines how the price mechanism allocates resources in local, national and global markets: (50% IAS and 25% of IAL)

*Unit 2: Macroeconomic Performance and Policy – Introduces the key measures of economic performance and the main objectives and instruments of economic policy in an international context: (50% IAS and 25% of IAL)

*Unit 3: Business Behaviour – This unit develops the content of Unit 1 and examines how pricing and the nature of competition between firms is affected by the number and size of market participants: (50% IAS and 25% of IAL)

*Unit 4: Developments in the Global Economy – This unit develops the knowledge and skills gained in Unit 2. The application, analysis and evaluation of economic models is required as well as an ability to assess policies that might be used to deal with economic problems: (50% IAS and 25% of IAL)

Assessment-

Units 1 and 2 (IAS) – Two Examinations of 1 hour and 30 minutes (1 for each unit), consisting of supported multiple-choice questions and one data response question out of a choice of two questions.

Units 3 and 4 (IAL) – Two Examinations of 2 hours (one for each unit), consisting of two essay questions from a choice of four questions and one data response question out of a choice of two questions.

Career Prospects- Chartered accountant, Chartered certified accountant, Chartered public finance accountant, Economist, Financial risk analyst, Investment analyst, Statistician, Quality Surveyor.

English Language

Course Code: XEN01, (AS level) YEN01 (A level)

Exam Board: Edexcel

Entry Requirements: IGCSE: Grade 6/ B in English Language

Course Content:

The course is modular. There are two units in each year.

IAS Unit 1: Language: Context and identity

Content overview.

Students will study:

- the range of contexts in which language is produced and received
- how the contexts of production and reception affect language choices
- how writers/speakers present themselves to their audience in a variety of modes
- how writers/speakers choose language to reflect and construct their identity or identities
- how writers create texts for different forms, purposes, audiences, and contexts.

IAS Unit 2: Language in Transition

Students will study:

- the influence of other languages on the development of English
- pidgins and creoles
- the development of English outside the British Isles. Students will explore the ways in which languages change, with a focus on English in a global context.

Assessment –

IAS Unit 1: Language: Context and identity

Externally assessed Written examination: 1 hour 45 minutes

Students answer two compulsory questions: one question from Section A and one question from Section B.

Section A: Context and Identity: Students answer a comparative question based on two unseen texts selected from 20th and 21st century sources.

Section B: The Creation of Voice: Students create a new text for a specified audience, drawing on their own ideas and on at least one of the unseen texts from Section A.

IAS Unit 2: Language in Transition

Externally assessed Written examination: 1 hour 45 minutes

Students answer two compulsory questions: one question from Section A and one question from Section B based on unseen transcripts. The unseen transcripts are presented in a Source Booklet for students

Section A: Spoken language Today

- Students answer one question on an unseen transcript of spoken English of the 21st century.

Section B: Written Language of the 19th – 20th Century

- Students answer one discussion question using unseen transcripts and their own knowledge that look at the issue highlighted in Section A from a wider perspective.

Career Prospects-

Advertising, Assistant Editor, Associate Company Manager, Director of Publicity, Communication Skill Trainer, Creative Director, Financial Aid Counselor, Foreign Service, Narrator, News Reporter, Newspaper, Operation Manager.

Information Technology

Course Code: XIT11

Exam Board: Edexcel

Entry Requirements: IGCSE: 6 in ICT / 5 in English Language / 5 in Mathematics

The syllabus aims to enable candidates to:

- Develop a broad range of practical IT skills
- Understand the components, uses, and applications of IT systems in a variety of organisational contexts
- Understand how IT systems impact individuals, organisations, and society
- Develop knowledge of the system development life cycle and apply it to real-world workplace scenarios
- Gain a broad understanding of the use of IT in business and professional environments
- Develop project planning and management skills and Be aware of new and emerging technologies, Understand the role of the internet, including its benefits and associated risks.

Assessment-

Unit 1 Theory: Code WIT11/01

Written Examination – 2 hours

- Assesses knowledge of IT systems, data, software, hardware, networks, and the impact of IT on individuals and organisations
- Weighting: 50% of the total IAS / 25% of the total IAL

Unit 2: Code WIT12/01

Practical Examination – 3 hours

- Assesses practical database and information management skills
- Candidates design, create, test, and evaluate an information management system

- Weighting: 50% of the total IAS /25% of the total IAL

Unit 3 Theory: Code: WIT13/01

Written Examination – 1 hour 30 minutes

- Assess The role of social media in organisations, Digital marketing strategies and audience engagement, Legal, ethical, and security considerations.
- Measuring success using analytics.
- Weighting: 25% of IAL

Unit 4 : Code: WIT14/01

Practical Examination – 3 hours

- Planning, designing, and managing an IT-based project, Use of project management tools and techniques, Evaluation of project outcomes and effectiveness.
- Weighting: 25% of IAL

Career Prospects-

Analyst Programmers, Chief Information Officers, Communications Trade Workers, Computer Network Professionals, ICT Business and Systems Analysts, Programmers.

Mathematics

Course Code: XMA01 [IAS] , YMA01 [IAL]

Exam Board: Edexcel

Entry Requirements: IGCSE : Grade 7/ B in Mathematics

A Level Mathematics is a two-year course. Students have the option to study for just one year and sit the AS level, or study for two years to achieve the full A Level.

Course Content-

P1: Pure Mathematics 1-(AS level) Algebra and functions; coordinate geometry in the (x,y); trigonometry; differentiation; integration.

P2: Pure Mathematics 2- (AS level) Proof; algebra and functions; coordinate geometry in the (x, y) plane; sequences and series; exponentials and logarithms; trigonometry; differentiation; integration.

P3: Pure Mathematics 3- (A level) Algebra and functions; trigonometry; exponentials and logarithms; differentiation; integration; numerical methods.

P4: Pure Mathematics 4- (A level) Proof; algebra and functions; coordinate geometry in the (x, y) plane; binomial expansion; differentiation; integration; vectors.

S1: Statistics 1- (AS level) Mathematical models in probability and statistics; representation and summary of data; probability; correlation and regression; discrete random variables; discrete distributions; the Normal distribution.

M1: Mechanics 1- (AS level) Mathematical models in mechanics; vectors in mechanics; kinematics of a particle moving in a straight line; dynamics of a particle moving in a straight line or plane; statics of a particle; moments.

S2: Statistics 2- (A level) The Binomial and Poisson distributions; continuous random variables; continuous distributions; samples; hypothesis tests.

M2: Mechanics 2- (A level) Kinematics of a particle moving in a straight line or plane; centres of mass; work and energy; collisions; statics of rigid bodies.

Career Prospects-

Mathematician, Actuary, Statistician, Biologist, Software Engineer, Computer Systems Analyst, Historian, Sociologist, Industrial Engineer, Physicist, Parole Officer, Meteorologist, Paralegal Assistant, Computer Programmer, Motion Picture Editor, Astronomer

Media Studies

Course Code: 7572

Exam Board: AQA

Entry Requirements: Grade 6/B in English Language/Literature

Course Content: Linear two-year course.

A Level Media Studies engages students in the in depth study of media products in relation to the four areas of the theoretical framework:

- Media language
- Media representation
- Media industries
- Media audiences.

Students are required to study media products from all of the following media forms: • audio-visual forms (TV, film, radio, advertising and marketing, video games and music video) • online forms (social and participatory media, video games, music video, newspapers, magazines, advertising and marketing) • print forms (newspapers, magazines, advertising and marketing).

Assessment-

Media 1

Written exam: 2 hours 35% of A Level:

Section A will focus on Media Language and Media Representations. Questions in this section will test the following forms:

- advertising and marketing
- music video.

Section B will focus on Media Industries and Media Audiences. Questions in this section can test any two of the following forms:

- radio
- newspapers
- film (industries only)

A range of questions relating to an unseen source and Close Study Products.

Two essay questions (20 marks), one of which is an extended response question

Media 2

Written exam: 2 hours 35% of A Level:

- Questions will focus on the in-depth media forms of television, magazines and online, social and participatory media/video games.
- One medium length unseen analysis question.
- Three essay questions (25 marks), one of which is an extended response question and one of which is a synoptic question.

Non-exam assessment: creating a cross-media production

A choice of one of six annually changing briefs, set by AQA. 30% of A Level.

- Application of knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework.
- Ability to create media products.

Students produce:

- a statement of intent
- a cross-media production made for an intended audience.

Career Prospects-

Presenter. Advertising media buyer. Copywriter. Media researcher. Broadcast journalist. Writer. Social media manager. Digital marketer. Public relations officer. Broadcasting in film and television. Web content manager. Event manager.

Physics

Course Code: XPH11 (IAS), YPH11 (IAL)

Exam Board: Edexcel

Entry Requirements: IGCSE: 6 in Physics/ 6 in English Language / 6 in Mathematics

Forces and motion form a central part of every physicist's understanding of the Universe around us. You will therefore learn how to mathematically model the motion of objects in order to develop your understanding of the effects forces have on objects and the connection between force and energy. Quantum physics is thought by many to be one of our greatest ever achievements. It allows us to predict accurately what happens on the tiniest of scales, scales much smaller than the size of an atom. To help you understand the ideas involved, we start by looking at the electron and how it behaves in circuits. We then move on to an exploration of wave properties before ending with quantum physics. Newtonian mechanics has had an incredible impact on physics for over three hundred and fifty years. You will delve more deeply into some of the areas involved, such as looking at the orbits of stars and planets, to the microscopic interactions that cause pressure in gases. Physics is the study of all things great and small, so the final topics in the second year of study focus on particles. You will study capacitance, electric fields, electromagnetism, nuclear physics, particle physics and medical imaging.

Course Content:

- *Unit 1: Mechanics and Materials: (40% of IAS/20% of IAL)
- * Unit 2: Waves and Electricity: (40% of IAS/20% of IAL)
- * Unit 3: Practical Skills in Physics 1 – Developing experimental skills, and a knowledge and understanding of experimental techniques: (20% of IAS/10% of IAL)
- *Unit 4: Further Mechanics, Fields and Particles: (40% of IAS/20% of IAL)
- *Unit 5: Thermodynamics, Radiation, Oscillations and Cosmology: (40% of IAS/20% of IAL)
- *Unit 6: Practical Skills in Physics 2 – Building and refining skills learned in Unit 3: (20% of IAS/10% of IAL)
- *How Science Works is integrated with the teaching and learning of all the units.

Assessment– All units are assessed by means of a written examination paper

- *Units 1, and 2 carry 80 marks each. Unit 3 carries 50 marks (IAS)
- *Units 3 and 4 carry 90 marks each. Unit 6 carries 50 marks (IAL)
- *The exam papers will include– objective questions, structured questions and short answer questions.
- * HSW will be assessed in the context of the unit content.

Career Prospects-

Geophysicist/ Field Seismologist, Higher Education Lecturer, Medical Physicist, Radiation Protection Practitioner, Research Scientist, Scientific Laboratory Technician, Astronomer, and many more.

Psychology

Course Code: XPS01/YPS01

Exam Board: Edexcel

Entry Requirements: IGCSE: 6 in English Language / 6 in Mathematics

Psychology is the science of mind, brain, and behaviour. It seeks to understand why and how humans behave as they do through controlled scientific research. It is exactly on the border between science and social science/humanities: it borders Biology on the scientific side and Sociology and Politics on the social sciences side. It provides balance to either scientists or social scientists and is one of the likely future subjects as neuroscience becomes the leading research field of the century

Course Content-

Unit 1: Social and Cognitive Psychology – aspects of human behaviour in relation to others and the role of cognition in human behaviour: (40% of IAS/20% of IAL)

*Unit 2: Biological Psychology, Learning Theories, and Development – How mechanisms within the body impact on human behaviour, and how individuals learn from their environment: (60% of IAS/30% of IAL)

*Unit 3: Applications of Psychology – Developmental and either Criminal or Health Psychology in Context: (20% of IAL)

*Unit 4: Clinical Psychology and Psychological Skills – A synoptic section in which students will be asked to draw on other areas of the qualification in order to understand conceptual and methodological issues. (30% of IAL)

Assessment-

Unit 1: The assessment is 1 hour 30 minutes. The assessment consists of 64 marks.

Unit 2: The assessment is 2 hours. The assessment consists of 96 marks.

Unit 3: The assessment is 1 hour 30 minutes. The assessment consists of 64 marks.

Unit 4: The assessment is 2 hours. The assessment consists of 96 marks.

Career Prospects-

Management, Marketing, Advertising, Profiling, Recruitment, Education, Coaching / Training, Healthcare, Forensic Law, Forces Officer ship, Counselling / Therapy, and Research work.

Politics

Course Code: 8PLO [Yr. 12]

Exam Board: Edexcel

Entry Requirements: C in English Language / C in Mathematics

AS Politics – AS Politics is a one-year course that provides a broad, coherent, satisfying and worthwhile course of study. It encourages learners to develop confidence in, and a positive attitude towards, politics and to recognise its importance in their own lives and to society. At AS Level, students will study about the UK politics and government, providing them with a core set of knowledge and understanding about politics. Students must complete all assessment in May/June in any single year

Course Content:

Component 1: UK Politics (Component code: 8PLO/01)

Students will study: 1. democracy and participation 2. political parties 3. electoral systems 4. voting behaviour and the media.

Component 2: UK Government (Component code: 8PLO/02)

Students will study: 1. the constitution 2. parliament 3. Prime Minister and executive 4. relationships between the branches

Assessment–

Component 1: UK Politics (Component code: 8PLO/01)

Written examination: 1 hour and 45 minutes 50% of the qualification 60 marks. One 10-mark question from a choice of two, which assesses AO1. Two 10-mark questions – one question focuses on a single source and assesses AO1 and AO2. The other question focuses on two comparative sources and assesses AO2 and AO3. One 30-mark question from a choice of two, which assesses AO1, AO2 and AO3.

Component 2: UK Government (Component code: 8PLO/02)

Written examination: 1 hour and 45 minutes 50% of the qualification 60 mark. One 10-mark question from a choice of two, which assesses AO1. Two 10-mark questions – one question focuses on a single source and assesses AO1 and AO2. The other question focuses on two comparative sources and assesses AO2 and AO3 and one 30-mark question from a choice of two, which assesses AO1, AO2 and AO3.

Career Prospects–

Politics opens doors to a broad range of careers, including political work, social and political research, journalism, HR and marketing.

Course Code: 9PLO [Yr. 13]

Exam Board: Edexcel

Entry Requirements: B in English Language / C in Mathematics

A Level Politics is a two-year course. Students have the option to study for just one year and sit the AS level, or study for two years to achieve the full A Level. For the full A Level, all exams are taken at the end of the second year and AS results are disregarded. Recently we have experienced a seismic shift in global politics with leaders who hold extreme political views rising to power all over the world. Politics and policy has an impact on us all and understanding of the key elements of politics is essential if we are to understand how and why political decisions are made, how governments work and make sense of national and global events. Studying Politics will allow you to develop your knowledge and understanding of the role that politics plays in relation to current local, national and global issues

Course Content:

Component 1: UK Politics 1 – Democracy and participation, political parties, electoral systems, voting behaviour and the media. 2. Core Political Ideas, students will study: conservatism, liberalism, socialism.

Component 2: UK Government UK Government – The constitution, parliament, Prime Minister and executive, relationships between the branches. 2. Optional Political Ideas, students will study: one idea from the following: anarchism, ecologism, feminism, multiculturalism, nationalism.

Component 3: Comparative – The US Constitution and federalism, US Congress, US presidency, US Supreme Court and civil rights, democracy and participation, comparative theories. OR For Global (3B) students will study sovereignty and globalisation, global governance: political and economic, global governance: human rights and environmental, power and developments, regionalism and the European Union, comparative theories.

Assessment-

All components will be assessed with a 2-hour exam, worth 33.3% of the overall A Level qualification.

Questions are essay based, with two 30-mark questions on each paper. One essay question is compulsory, and the other can be chosen from a selection of pre-defined questions.

This course is designed to be taken over the full two years. All papers should be sat in May/June of any academic year.

Career Prospects-

Studying Politics can open up a wide range of job opportunities both in the public, private and not-for-profit sectors. Students interested in careers in Business, Education, Law, Journalism, Communications, Government, or Politics more generally, can obtain vital knowledge and skills for these industries.

BTEC Qualifications at TSPS

At TSPS we are pleased to announce the introduction of our BTEC qualifications which are designed for our learners who prefer a more vocational way of learning.

Assessment

Our BTEC courses will range over a variety of subjects and are assessed internally within the school; this means that assessment is 100% coursework, assessed through a variety of ways:

Each unit is assessed and graded through assignments. All units are internally assessed and assessments are constructed by the school. Students will complete a range of assignments, case

studies and practical activities. All assessment is quality assured through internal verification and Edexcel carry out external verification activities (including sampling assessors' decisions using sector-specialist external verifiers).

These are a few examples in which teachers can choose to assess learners to make the learning of subjects more practical and allow students who perform better in these methods of assessments have an alternative to external examinations.

- Presentations
- Written Reports
- Observations
- Practical work

The BTEC Nationals offer 2 different types of qualifications:

Qualification Name	Duration	Units	Equivalent to
BTEC National Certificate	1 Year	3 Units	1 AS Level
BTEC National Subsidiary Diploma	2 Years	6 Units	1 A Level

BTEC National courses are vocational; this means that the assessment for this qualification is **100% coursework** with **no external examination** in a range of different subject units. In order to achieve the National Subsidiary Diploma, you must first complete the National Certificate and then complete an additional 3 units in the second year.

Students **are not** graded A* – E but are graded **Pass, Merit & Distinction**. The BTEC builds on the knowledge students gained from IGCSE qualifications and now allows them to put this into practice and apply this to the real world.

Why should I take a BTEC?

There are several reasons why you may want to choose a BTEC over other qualifications.

First, they are recognised by a large number of companies across a wide range of industries. As well as being developed in partnership with industry representatives so all employer and student needs are met, many professional bodies offer successful BTEC students' exemptions for their own accredited qualifications.

Second, if you are not fond of taking exams and find the pressure causes you to under-perform, a BTEC will allow you to undertake a number of units for which you will present evidence, based on real-life work and studies.

This means you can demonstrate your skills and knowledge through a practical situation rather than sweating it out in an exam hall.

You will be provided with personal guidance and support by your teacher, who will also help you meet deadlines and reach your full potential.

Do all universities accept BTECs?

Ninety-five per cent of universities and colleges in the UK accept BTEC students. In 2015, over a quarter of students accepted into higher education held at least one BTEC. Nearly all universities accept BTECs in relevant subject areas, similar to how they would with equivalent A-level qualifications.

BTEC students can often be better prepared in terms of the independent studying that's required at degree level, due to the portfolio-based nature of BTEC courses. The time management and self-organisation you'll pick up on a BTEC course can also give you an added edge.

BTEC Business Studies

The key to doing well in this subject is time management. There will always be coursework deadlines to meet, so even though there is no pressure of examinations to worry about, it is not an easy option. The benefit of undertaking a coursework subject like BTEC is that when you have submitted work, you can have the opportunity to improve it, unlike an examination subject which is a one off assessment. You will develop excellent research skills and also become an excellent independent learner. These are all valuable skills when moving onto higher education or the workplace.

The course leads onto either university acceptance or the world of work. It is recognised by most universities for progressing onto degree courses. However, it would be wise to check with your potential university destination to ensure they accept it, as some of the Russell group universities may restrict the number of vocational courses they accept in an application from one student.

The course is different to many others as it is assessed 100% by completing coursework tasks, applying business knowledge to real business situations. There are two choices, single award, which is equivalent to obtaining one A-Level and the double award which is the equivalent of obtaining two A Levels. The Subsidiary Diploma is the single award qualification. This is made up of 360 guided learning hours over a 2-year period. Students will also be given the opportunity to go on visits to local businesses and tourist attractions. A key element of the course is to allow

students to relate theory to real life, therefore it is encouraged that students attend these trips. However, there will be a cost attached to these trips, therefore although encouraged they are not compulsory. The units will cover such topics as marketing, accounts, human resources and ICT in business. The qualification gives a broad background into a business.

Core Units

Exploring Business Activity Investigating Business Resources Introduction to Marketing
Effective People, Communication and Information

BTEC Sports

The 60-credit BTEC in Sport will give learners a solid foundation in the sports sector, enabling them to develop essential skills required for gaining employment, securing career progression, or progressing to further qualifications and training required to achieve their goals. It is broadly equivalent to one GCE A Level.

The course has been designed to give learners the opportunity to develop a range of techniques, personal skills, and attributes essential for successful performance at university and in working life. The BTEC qualification in Sport introduces the sector for learners looking to build a career in sport, within one of its occupational areas. These areas include careers in exercise and fitness, coaching and leadership, sports development, events management, and practical sports performance. It combines well with many subjects and supports entry to higher education courses in a very wide range of disciplines (depending on the subjects taken alongside).

For learners who wish to study an aspect of sport in higher education, opportunities include:

BA (Hons) in Sport Studies and Business, BSC (Hons) in Sport Psychology, BA (Hons) in Sports Education and Special and Inclusive Education, BA (Hons) in Sport and Exercise Science

BTEC ICT

BTEC IT Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma course will provide students with hands-on, practical experience which will prepare you for a future career in the IT industry. Given the huge growth in IT-related jobs and services in the global economy, students will gain skills and experience which will improve their future employability and innovation skills. The major difference to the Level 2 or IGCSE IT curriculum is students will spend a significantly larger portion of their time working on project-based assignments. The BTEC Level 3 IT is also suitable for students who may not envisage a career focused on the IT industry yet wish to gain experience and knowledge of IT systems and programming, which will serve them well across future career pathways.

The BTEC Level 3 IT is also suitable for students who may not envisage a career focused on the IT industry yet wish to gain experience and knowledge of IT systems and programming, which will serve them well across future career pathways. Without the pressure of external examinations to consider we are able to design our assessment around the individual needs and preferences of the students. We can design activities that allow for dynamic assessment through practical experiences rather than preparing for end of year examinations. This will mean that students

should be prepared to not simply focus on basic Microsoft Office skills, but creative and exciting projects designed to encourage their creativity and gain high level IT skills.

Furthermore, the DBSJP BTEC IT Level 3 will enable you to gain a better understanding of what it would be like to work in professions such as Graphics Design, Computer Animation, Games development and so on. This is a course perfectly suited for all students who wish to have a hands-on vocational experience, whilst gaining 21st century skills in the process

Higher Education and Career Counselling

Our students are supported on a one to one basis to help them explore the best options for university in line with their career ambitions.

We know that a successful career programme does more than prepare students for the future; it helps them make the right choices in school and encourages them to engage with their studies to reach their career goals. Proper career guidance should ensure that our students leave TSPS well-prepared for the outside world, with the employability skills that they need to succeed and the capacity to do well in life.

Students have 1:1 session with the Higher Education counselling where a personal analysis of their ideas, feelings and choices is done. These sessions help to assess their interests and abilities. Students are made aware of the new and diverse trending career options available to get a great start in their professional lives.

In addition to this, students are also guided through the application process and to determine the next steps related to the admission process for universities.

Activities –

- Orientation on Higher Education & Career Guidance Programme
- Higher Education & Career Survey
- Higher Education & Career Conference (International)
- Guidance to the students about the online courses
- Session for SAT and other external examinations required for the University admissions
- Session for UCAS and Common App
- Skill based training
- Higher Education & Career Conference (Dubai) (fair)
- Career Workshops
- One to One interview session
- Internal and External Internships
- University visits (Local and International)
- Profile building
- Profile Building
- One to one parent counselling on Higher Education
- Alumni mentoring and Pairing
- Psychometric testing
- Career Café
- Career Connect
- Career Week

Duke of Edinburgh DoFE

TSPS is a directly licensed centre by The Duke of Edinburgh's Award, which allows us to run and approve Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards.

The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award is an internationally recognised program for young people, building their skills to equip them for life and work. By creating opportunities for young people to develop skills, get physically active, give service and experience adventure, the Award can play a critical role in their development.

The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award is available to all 14 - 24 year old, regardless of their background. The Award is comprised of three levels, each progressively more challenging.

- Bronze- For students over 14 years old.
- Silver- For students over 15 years old
- Gold- For students over 16 years old

Participants are required to complete four sections at each level: Voluntary Service, Skill, Physical Recreation and Adventurous Journey. Register all the activities and goals for each section on the online record book.

Community Service

As part of being holistically involved in school life, Year 12 will be assigned working groups to partake in some form of community service. This is an excellent way to develop essential life-skills, which will be beneficial for personal growth. All activities can be documented and used as evidence for their involvement with the community, which is a greatly desired quality amongst prospective employers.

Online learning courses

Skills based courses	Provider	Duration	Workload
Preparing for Uni	University of East Anglia	6 weeks	3hrs p/w
How to succeed at: Writing Applications	University of Sheffield	3 weeks	3hrs p/w
How to succeed at: Interviews	University of Sheffield	3 weeks	3hrs p/w
A Beginner's Guide to Writing in English for University Study	University of Reading	5 weeks	3hrs p/w

Subject based courses	Provider	Duration	Workload
The Secret Power of Brands	University of East Anglia	6 weeks	3hrs p/w
Understanding Modern Business and Organisations	University of Strathclyde	6 weeks	6hrs p/w
Explore Filmmaking – from Script to Screen	National Film and TV School	6 weeks	3hrs p/w
Community Journalism: Digital and Social Media	Cardiff University	5 weeks	4hrs p/w
Getting a Grip on Mathematical Symbolism	Loughborough University	3 weeks	2hrs p/w
The Science of Medicines	Monash University	6 weeks	3 hrs p/w
Introduction to Forensic Science	University of Strathclyde	6 weeks	3 hrs p/w

The subject based courses are particularly useful to demonstrate to an admissions tutor that you have a wider interest in the subject you are applying for and have had the initiative to study in more depth than the requirements of the AS Level course.

Tuition for all courses is entirely free. For most of them there is the option to buy a certificate of participation, for which the providing institute charges £32.70. This is payable directly to FutureLearn.

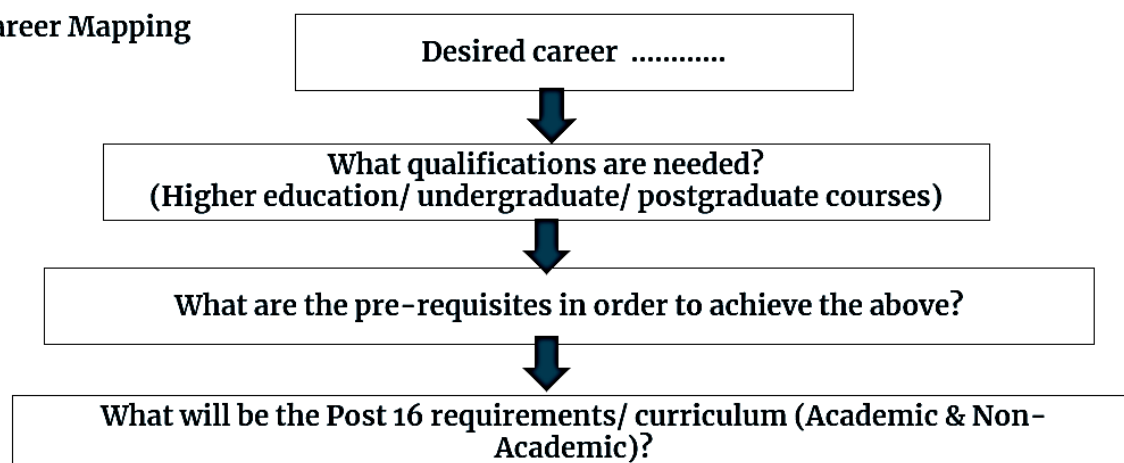
Further information about all courses can be found at <http://www.futurelearn.com>

Useful Website to research on Career choices

- ❑ UK university Application System – www.ucas.com
- ❑ Common Application to 50 US and 20 other countries – <https://www.commonapp.org/>
- ❑ British Qualifications required to study in USA – [US-UK Fulbright Commission | Funding for US-UK exchange | EducationUSA advice for British students](#)
- ❑ Career Wales website (a comprehensive career site) – www.careerswales.com
- ❑ Higher Education Option in Europe – [Welcome to Study in Europe | Education and Training \(europa.eu\)](#)
- ❑ Choosing subjects – <https://www.myworldofwork.co.uk/my-career-options>
- ❑ Choosing subjects – <https://www.careerpilot.org.uk/information/your-choices-at-14>
- ❑ University guide – <https://www.theuniguide.co.uk/advice/a-level-choices>

Career Mapping

Career Mapping



Deciding factors as per the current Higher Education requirements

Subjects in A level

Target grades

Extracurricular
requirements

CAPSTONE

Useful contacts

Name	Position	Email id
Mr. Nikki Upsall	Secondary Head	nikki.upsall@sheffield-school.com
Mr Scott Graham	Deputy Head of Secondary	Scott.graham@sheffield-school.com
Ms.Dhanya Sasidharan	Head of Year 11	dhanya.sasidharan@sheffield-school.com
Ms. Usha Menon	Head of Year 12	usha.menon@sheffield-school.com
Ms. Aadhya Kesavan	D Career counsellor	aadhya.kesavan@sheffield-school.com
Ms. Tanvi Chatterjee Mondal	Admissions Officer	tanvi.mondal@sheffield-school.com

