



WOLGARSTON HIGH SCHOOL

Welcome to your
Sixth Form

PROSPECTUS FOR 2026 ENTRY

Welcome to Wolgarston

Wolgarston is a fantastic school and I am very proud to lead it. We've developed a reputation locally for delivering some of the very best results at GCSE, A Level and BTEC. But it's not just our results that speak for themselves. Students leave Wolgarston as better people. People who are ready to make a positive contribution to the world, respectful of those around them and resilient enough to take on the challenges that life may bring.

We are proud of our academic ethos and high standards—and let me qualify what I mean by that.

Academic success comes in many forms but is always the product of hard work, expert teaching and the nurturing of enquiring minds. At Wolgarston, alongside all other schools in Penk Valley Academy Trust, we follow the research-based approach to teaching and learning described in Professor John Hattie's Visible Learning. We have currently in the process of being awarded the Level 3 Visible Learning 'Certified School Status' by Osiris Education – the first school in the UK to achieve this.

This meticulous attention to delivering and sequencing high-quality lessons mean that students know precisely where they are on their learning journey and can develop the habits needed to be successful and independent. We offer a broad and balanced curriculum with a strong focus on traditional subjects and the facilitating subjects that open up the doors of the best universities and employers.

This deep learning is complemented by our strong enrichment programme. We offer an excellent range of educational visits and international learning opportunities and we regularly welcome a variety of guest speakers to speak in our purpose-built lecture theatre. We play host to awareness days for all of our students covering such themes as cultural diversity, our community, careers and sports. I am proud to be supporting and developing our extra-curriculum enrichment programme this year with the aim to offer clubs, societies and additional activities to each and every student, no matter their background, financial situation or transport needs.

So that, in a nutshell, is Wolgarston. One of the best schools in England – proudly offering a truly excellent education to the families of South Staffordshire.

In return I ask for one simple thing – one hundred percent. 100% attendance, 100% focus and 100% drive.

I make no apologies for my sky-high expectations in terms of effort, attitude and behaviour and I can guarantee you that if your son or daughter arrives at Wolgarston ready to learn there is no reason why they will not leave having achieved amazing things.

Daniel Boden
Headteacher



Welcome to Sixth Form

I am delighted that you are considering Wolgarston's Sixth Form as your next destination following Year 11 and I warmly welcome you to find out more about our highly successful and supportive learning environment.

Year on year, our sixth form achieves results which far surpass local and national benchmarks. Our commitment to Visible Learning has been a contributing factor towards ensuring that the sixth form remains one of the top performing in Staffordshire. Wolgarston is indeed one of the leading Visible learning schools in the UK. Combine this with the ability to choose from a wide range of courses, each taught by experienced, specialist teachers, and you will be able to reach the very highest levels of academic success at Wolgarston and beyond.



In terms of your personal development, the pastoral and support systems at Wolgarston are second to none. Our ambition is for you to be able to progress to one of the best universities or a career of your choice. We recognise that each of you has individual needs, aspirations and different goals so, a tailored careers support programme will be led by your tutor, with a keen focus on how to ensure academic success, how to support your wellbeing and how to move on to your next steps.

The support programme is based on a two-year tutorial programme, having regular, personal developmental taught sessions with your tutor and exposure to speakers and trips related to what you want out of your sixth form experience. There will be the opportunity to hear directly from speakers about careers and university, as well as trips to experience learning in different contexts. In Year 12, we ensure that all students attend a week of work experience and this experience of the 'real' world is furthered by students undertaking the vocational BTEC courses.

In Year 12, students are also invited to a higher education convention so they can experience university life and make informed choices about their future. A careers day is also held to further support next steps and covers topics such as writing a positive account of yourself, aptitude tests and selection processes, interview skills, choices and opportunities post Wolgarston and personal finance. These additional experiences and the university preparation assemblies enable students to make informed choices and, critically, to be helped along the way. Come the time to leave Wolgarston, the personal developmental programme ensures that all students can fulfil their potential.

We have many student leadership opportunities within the sixth form, including joining our sixth form council, who are launching a Subject Ambassador programme and the appointment of our Head Girl, Head Boy and Deputy positions. Our student leaders are integral for events such as our Armistice Day event, our Senior Citizens' Christmas Party and our food bank drive.

We also start the year with our Year 12 Residential (one night) where students can get to know each other and their tutors in a new context. There's also the opportunity to build cultural capital with enjoyable visits to museums, tourist attractions and theatre shows.

It is a great privilege and honour to lead our thriving sixth form and I hope you will join our learning community; it is dedicated to excellence and you can contribute to making our sixth form an even better place to support young peoples' aspirations.

Clare Turner

Assistant Headteacher

Leading by example

Evie Phillips – Head Girl

Hello, I'm Evie and I am Head Girl at Wolgarston. As someone who has lived in Penkridge for all of her life and attended two previous schools under the Penk Valley Academy umbrella (those being Princefield First School and Penkridge Middle School), I feel extremely privileged and honoured to have been given this opportunity! I have always enjoyed my time at Wolgarston, starting with my first day in year nine. Ever since I stepped through the school gates those years ago, I have progressed more not only academically, but emotionally and personally more than I ever have in my entire life. I have made some of my strongest friendships at this school, and made memories I will not forget. Wolgarston is the most supportive and caring learning environment that I have had the privilege to experience the benefits of, and has unlocked so many opportunities for my future.

I am excited and take pride in being involved in making the experience even better for those coming after me. I am determined to act as a positive role model for those around me and encourage a close community. As someone who has been at Wolgarston for 5 years, I am dedicated to making Wolgarston High School and Sixth Form the best it can possibly be and a place where students can feel proud, comfortable and confident to learn and succeed in.

Isaac Payton – Head Boy

I am deeply honoured and excited to have been appointed Head Boy for this academic year. My name is Isaac Payton and I am studying A-Level History, Politics and BTEC Business here at Wolgarston. This role is both a privilege and a responsibility—one that I accept with great pride and a strong commitment to serving the school community.

Wolgarston has played a significant role in shaping who I am today. It has provided me with an environment that values character, resilience, and academic ambition. I have been fortunate to learn from inspiring teachers, collaborate with talented peers, and take part in experiences that have challenged and enriched me, both inside and outside lessons. Therefore, I feel it is my duty to give back to a school that has given me so much. I intend to act as a bridge between students and staff and to ensure everyone has the opportunity to excel by promoting a strong sense of inclusivity and resilience throughout the student body.

As Head Boy, I see my role as more than just a title. It is an opportunity to give back to a school that has given me so much. I hope to lead by example, to listen, to support, and to help foster a culture where every student feels empowered to achieve their potential. I look forward to working with the rest of the student leadership team, staff, and wider student body to uphold the values that defines the spirit of Wolgarston.

Leading by example

Lorena Thompson-Kerr – Deputy Head Girl

My journey to Wolgarston Sixth Form might be a little different from most as I was home-educated from Year 7 all the way through to my GCSEs. In fact, I hadn't even heard of Wolgarston until last June (2024). But the moment I came across the school, something about it stood out. I knew I wanted in. So I did what anyone would do, I wrote a very enthusiastic begging letter introducing myself and explaining exactly why I wanted to join. I was invited for an interview and a few weeks later, I was offered a conditional place.

In September 2024, I joined the Sixth Form, knowing no one. But I was quickly welcomed into a vibrant and inclusive community, with fantastic teachers and a friendship group I now couldn't imagine being without.

I am studying A levels: English Literature, Media and Sociology and I'm doing the EPQ. I hope to become a lawyer.

Wolgarston offers more than just a strong academic experience, it's packed with opportunities to grow and get involved. From our lively Debate Club (where we've argued everything from Eurovision to Cats vs Dogs) to our student-led DIY Club focused on inclusion and social action. Being part of community initiatives like hosting a Christmas party for older Penkridge residents and laying wreaths at Remembrance commemorations has been a real highlight. Wolgarston is just an all-round lovely school with a genuinely warm atmosphere. There's truly something for everyone.

In the time I've been here, our Head of Sixth Form, Miss Turner has introduced initiatives to support our ambitions including; the Elephant Programme, which has paired Wolgarston with the charity that is committed to widening access to top universities for high-achieving students from underrepresented backgrounds. I am very proud that Wolgarston consistently promotes equity and aspiration in education.

As Deputy Head Girl, I'm here to listen, act, and deliver. Whether you've been here since Year 9 or joined at Sixth Form, I want every student to feel heard, supported, and empowered to make the most of their time here.

I could not have chosen a better place to end my schooling and I'm excited to give back to the school community that has already given me so much

Stephen Hill – Deputy Head Boy

Hello! I am Stephen and I am proud to say that I am Wolgarston's Deputy Head Boy. I have been a member of the school since the beginning of Year 9 and have taken up every opportunity that the school has offered. From international trips to University visits. I am very well rounded and knowledgeable on the school and happy to help with any questions that parents or students may have. I am pleased to be supporting the sixth form and pushing the changes that the students want. In the future, I hope to become a Primary School teacher and eventually a Head teacher. You never know, I may be back some day!

I am very excited for the role of Deputy as it will give me the opportunity to give back to the Wolgarston community and continue to build on my own positive legacy.



Our Enrichment Programme

We offer a broad range of enrichment opportunities ranging from fun clubs to accreditations to really help your CV stand out from the crowd.

At Wolgarston you can expect to get involved in:

- Literature Circle
- Debating Society
- Medicine Society
- Law Society
- Duke of Edinburgh's award scheme
- Mentoring of students in Years 9-11
- Music
- Sports clubs
- Sixth Form Ambassador Programme
- Educational Visits
- Fundraising
- Tutorial sessions
- UCAS application support
- Visiting lectures
- Work Experience week

And what's more, if what you are looking for isn't on our list, just tell us and we will do our best to offer it.

Practicalities

You may have other questions on your mind before making the decision to study with us. Just ask and we will be more than happy to provide detailed information on the following.

- Sixth Form dress code and equipment
- Transport
- Catering facilities
- Pastoral support
- Bursaries for studying whilst at Wolgarston
- Sixth form centre facilities



The Debating Society discussing the issues surrounding immigration.

Your course choices

- 8 Art & Design A Level
- 9 Art & Design BTEC SINGLE OR DOUBLE
- 10 Biology A Level
- 11 Business BTEC SINGLE OR DOUBLE
- 12 Chemistry A Level
- 13 English Literature A Level
- 14 Extended Project Qualification
- 15 French A Level
- 16 Further Maths A Level
- 17 Geography A Level
- 18 Health & Social Care BTEC SINGLE
- 19 History A Level
- 20 Maths A Level
- 21 Media A Level
- 22 Politics A Level
- 23 Physics A Level
- 24 Psychology A Level
- 25 Sociology A Level
- 26 Sport BTEC SINGLE OR DOUBLE

**Students wanting to study Further Maths must also study Maths in Block E*

A	B	C	D	E
Biology	Chemistry	Physics	Maths or Further Maths	Maths
Sociology	English Literature	History	Psychology	Geography
Business single	Health and Social Care single	Sport single	Art single	Media
Business double	Business double	Art and Design double	Art and Design double	Politics
French	Sport double	Sport double		

Art and Design

Course outline

Students can specialise in Fine Art, Graphics or Photography. They will choose a theme for their Personal Investigation and will explore the theme in a variety of ways to meet the set assessment objectives. Students can choose their own ways of working and the Artists and Designers who inspire them.

How you will study and be assessed

The 'Personal Investigation' unit has 5 assessment objectives. Students will be assessed on their ability to record their ideas and observations, how well they can experiment and refine their ideas, how well they can relate their ideas to the work of others and their ability to create a professional final outcome. In addition to their practical portfolio, students will complete a research based essay in response to a question that they devise. Students also complete an externally set unit based on a word or theme set by the exam board in Year 13.

Who would suit the course?

The A Level course is suited to creative and motivated students who already have a sense of their own artistic or creative style. Students who enjoy exploring a single theme in great depth would be better suited to this course.

Possible career pathways

Students who study an Art and Design course can either use it to add variety and depth to any university application, or it can be used to allow entry into a range of creative career paths. Examples of these are Games Design, Illustration, Graphic Design, Animation, Fashion Design, Photography, Curation, Architecture or Interior Design.

For further information see

<https://ocr.org.uk/qualifications/as-and-a-level/art-and-design-h200-h600-from-2015/>



Awarding body: OCR

Level of Course: A Level



WOLGARSTON HIGH SCHOOL

Art and Design

Course outline

During the course of the two years, students will either complete 4 or 8 units. These units are primarily practical skills based and students will be set a variety of Design Briefs to respond to. The briefs will be open to interpretation to allow students to work creatively and introduce their own interests and ideas. Students will have the opportunity to explore and develop their practical skills in specialisms such as Photography, Fine Art, Graphic Design, Illustration and Textiles.

How you will study and be assessed

Each unit will have set criteria which students will be guided to meet. Students will work on study sheets, in research sketchbooks and on larger scale development and final pieces. Lessons will consist of a range of workshop based sessions and a large amount of independent studio work. Your teacher will advise you and give you advice and inspiration to allow you to meet your potential.

Students will also sit two externally set tasks which will be devised and assessed by the exam board.

Who would suit the course?

Any student who enjoys working in a creative and practical way could consider the course. Whilst it is beneficial for students to have studied Art and Design in KS4, any student who has a flair for, or an interest in, one or more art specialisms would be suited. Students need to be self-motivated and independent in their approach to their projects and their own research.

Possible career pathways

Students who study an Art and Design course can either use it to add variety and depth to any university application, or it can be used to allow entry into a range of creative career paths. Examples of these are Games Design, Illustration, Graphic Design, Animation, Fashion Design, Photography, Architecture or Interior Design.

For further information see

<http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-nationals/art-and-design-2016>



Awarding body: Edexcel

Level of Course: Level 3 (single or Double Award)



WOLGARSTON HIGH SCHOOL

Biology

Course outline

During the course eight topics in Biology are studied ranging from the structure of the cell and cell components to how genetic information is produced and passed on through individuals and populations.

Students are assessed on twelve key practicals and must be able to demonstrate not only scientific but practical, mathematical and literacy skills through their studies.

How you will study and be assessed

Lessons will consist of theory or practical-based sessions generally within a science laboratory and you will be taught by experienced teachers. In support of the teaching and learning in class you will be expected to complete study pack tasks and follow Royal Society of Biology conventions for all of the 8 topics. Each topic will be assessed by an end of unit test and you will receive feedback for key pieces of work.

The final examination consists of 3 separate papers assessing knowledge from the whole course and culminates in a 25-mark synoptic essay question.

Who would suit the course?

Students who are interested in the detail of how living organisms work and who are willing to learn new vocabulary and principles quickly.

Students who enjoy carrying out investigations in the lab or as field work.

Possible career pathways

Students may pursue careers in biological or scientific fields, such as Medicine, Dentistry, Biochemistry, Microbiology, Physiotherapy, Nursing and Sports Science.

For further information see

<http://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/biology/specifications/AQA-7401-7402-SP-2015.PDF> on the AQA web site



Awarding body - AQA

Level of course - A Level



WOLGARSTON HIGH SCHOOL

Business

Course outline

For students studying the Extended Certificate (single): this course is the equivalent of one A-Level and consists of the following units:

- Exploring Business
- Developing a Marketing Campaign
- Personal and Business Finance
- Business Interviews and Recruitment Processes

For students studying the Diploma (double): this course is the equivalent of two A-Levels and consists of the above units in addition to the following:

- Managing an Event
- International Business
- Principles of Management
- Work Experience with the Business Industry

How you will study and be assessed

Lessons will consist of theory based sessions which will then be applied to real world businesses through a variety of different assessment methods. These consist of:

- Internal assessments – as set and assessed by subject teachers
- External assessments – as set and assessed by the exam board
- An external exam – as set and assessed by the exam board

Who would suit the course?

Students who are interested in the business sector and wish to continue their education through applied learning.

Possible career pathways

Students may pursue careers in marketing, administration, finance, events management, HR and other related areas in the business sector, including higher apprenticeships.

For further information see

<http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-nationals/business-2016.html>



Awarding body - EDEXCEL

Level of course - Level 3 (SINGLE OR DOUBLE)



WOLGARSTON HIGH SCHOOL

Chemistry

Course outline

During the course students will study inorganic, organic and physical chemistry. Inorganic chemistry is the study of the periodic table and organic chemistry is the in-depth study of carbon compounds and mechanisms. Whereas physical chemistry is the study of how matter behaves on a molecular and atomic level and how chemical reactions occur.

Students are assessed on twelve key practicals and must be able to demonstrate not only scientific but practical, mathematical and literacy skills through their studies.

How you will study and be assessed

Lessons will consist of theory and practical-based sessions generally within a science laboratory and you will be taught by experienced teachers. In support of the teaching and learning in class you will be expected to complete study pack tasks which includes exam style questions. Each topic will be assessed by learning checks during the course of the topic and an end of unit test. Feedback will be given for key pieces of work.

The final examination consists of 3 separate papers assessing knowledge from the whole course and the 12 required practicals.

Who would suit the course?

Students who are able learn new principles quickly and enjoy solving complex problems. As well as carrying out investigations in the lab.

Possible career pathways

Students may pursue careers in Chemistry, Medicine, Dentistry, Biochemistry, Pharmacy, Veterinary Science or Chemical Engineering, or work in science-based industry, the medical field or agriculture and the food industry.

For further information see

<http://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/specifications/AQA-7405-SP-2015.PDF>

on the AQA web site



Awarding body - AQA
LEVEL OF COURSE - A LEVEL



WOLGARSTON HIGH SCHOOL

English Literature

Course outline

Through the study of literature, you will become a more perceptive analyst and a confident and sophisticated writer.

You will study a variety of texts, including Othello by William Shakespeare, The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini, Death of a Salesman by Arthur Miller, A Doll's House by Henrik Ibsen, poetry by John Keats, Tony Harrison and assorted other poets. You will also have the opportunity to select your own texts for your NEA, tailoring the course towards your own interests in literature.

A Level English Literature is assessed on the quality of insight you have about writers' messages and methods and how you engage with critical ideas.

How you will study and be assessed

You will study your prose, poetry and drama texts alongside experienced teachers. Learning Checks and assessments will be set and feedback provided on the strengths and weaknesses of your analysis. You will have focused work on how to structure essays and the types of analysis that allow you access higher mark bands. 20% of the qualification is assessed through coursework.

Who would suit the course?

Students who enjoy reading and have a genuine interest in how literature has shaped our society and values. Students must enjoy thinking critically about texts and be committed to improving writing structure and precision.

Possible career pathways

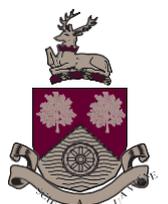
Students may pursue careers in many fields as English Literature is a highly regarded facilitating subject. Many students move on to study law, journalism, linguistics, creative writing, educational studies and teaching, marketing, human resources, social work or to further study literature at a higher education institution.

For further information see

see <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/as-and-a-level/english-literature-b-7716-7717> on the AQA website



Awarding body - AQA
LEVEL OF COURSE - A LEVEL



WOLGARSTON HIGH SCHOOL

Extended Project Qualification

Course outline

The Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) offers students the opportunity to undertake a research project of their own choice. Students choose their topic, set their own question and complete a dissertation or investigation independently. The project requires students to plan and organise their research plan, keep a detailed diary (log) of the research journey, conduct background research for their literature review, fully reference sources, discuss and evaluate their findings and the process. Students write up their project in the format of an academic report of around 6,000 words. When the project is complete students deliver a presentation on their research.

How you will study and be assessed

The majority of the work for the project is independent research, but the project co-ordinator will also provide a programme of lessons on research skills, report writing, referencing and presentation skills. You will also be offered one-to-one appointments with the project co-ordinator and relevant subject specific teachers.

You will be assessed on your ability to manage, use resources, develop and realise and review your project. These skills will be evidenced in the project activity log, the written report and the presentation. The project is internally assessed by the project co-ordinator and externally moderated by the exam board. The Extended Project is graded A* to E and is equivalent to half an A level.

Who would suit the course?

The extended project is an excellent choice for those who enjoy independent work and researching topics of their own choice. It is also useful for those who wish to develop their research skills, develop critical awareness and improve their analytical skills. Undertaking the project qualification can allow students to demonstrate their commitment when applying for competitive courses and careers, such as medicine, dentistry, physiotherapy and law and it can also help to boost a student's grade profile to enhance their applications to university and apprenticeships. It is therefore suitable for all ability levels.

Possible career pathways

Any careers that value originality of thought, independent decision making, research, commitment, analysis, reflection. The project qualification has been designed specifically to enhance the skills required for higher level study at university and in the workplace.

For further information see

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-project-qualification/level-3.html>



Awarding body - EDEXCEL
LEVEL OF COURSE – EQUIVALENT TO HALF AN A LEVEL



WOLGARSTON HIGH SCHOOL

French

Course outline

This course combines language learning with cultural elements. You will study 4 themes: how French society is changing, political and artistic culture in French speaking countries, immigration and multi-cultural society in France and WW2 – Occupation and Resistance.

You will extend grammatical and vocabulary knowledge and hone reading, listening and translation skills. You will also study a French film and novel. Finally, you will be able to choose an area of Francophone culture that interests you for an independent research project, which will form part of your final assessments.

How you will study and be assessed

You will study the language, culture, novel and film alongside experienced French teachers. You will be assessed via regular end of unit assessments. You will be encouraged to work independently and follow current events in France.

If this course enrolls very small numbers, the course will be delivered partly by Wolgarston's experienced teachers and partly via an online learning platform such as Oxford Open Learning, where you will be assigned an online tutor. If this hybrid model is the method of delivery, students will be informed in September.

Who would suit the course?

If you are interested by the language, literature, music, film and culture of the French-speaking world and want to extend your capabilities in French, then this is the course for you. Adding French as a partner A Level will give you greater possibilities for employment in a wide range of sectors.

Possible career pathways

With an A Level in French, the world is your oyster! The obvious career choices are teaching, translation, interpreting and travel and tourism. However, having French A level is an asset for anyone who wishes to work in journalism, politics, business, law, engineering, the Armed Forces, fashion and medicine.

For further information see

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-a-levels/french-2016.coursematerials.html#filterQuery=category:Pearson-UK:Category%2FSpecification-and-sample-assessments> on the Edexcel website.

Awarding body – EDEXCEL

Level of course: A LEVEL



WOLGARSTON HIGH SCHOOL

Further Maths

Course outline

The new A-Level is a 2 year course, with all exams taken at the end of the second year. There are 11 compulsory pure mathematics topics alongside two areas of applied mathematics. Discrete mathematics and mechanics will be the chosen options for all students.

How you will study and be assessed

The pure content in Further Mathematics will enable you to build on your knowledge from A-level Mathematics and explore new areas of study (complex numbers, matrices, polar coordinates and hyperbolic functions). The mechanics unit will provide a much more extensive knowledge of this area of mathematics than in the standard A-level and you will have the opportunity to experience a completely new area of mathematics in the discrete mathematics unit. You will learn to use a wide range of calculator functions for work as diverse as matrices and complex numbers.

To support of the teaching and learning in class, you will be expected to complete work outside of lessons. You will be guided in this through tasks set and the use of online resources. Throughout the course, you will receive feedback on your progress in lessons and on specific key pieces of work. In addition, each main topic will be assessed by a written test.

The final examination consists of three separate papers assessing knowledge from the whole course. Paper 1 and Paper 2 will both just contain pure mathematics; Paper 3 has 2 sections, one for each of the chosen applied units, discrete mathematics and mechanics.

Who would suit the course?

Students who are wishing to extend their mathematical knowledge beyond A Level Mathematics. Students who are interested in complex algebraic proof and understanding.

Possible career pathways

Students may pursue careers in engineering, science, teaching, business, computing, industry, finance and research.

For further information see

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/mathematics/as-and-a-level/further-mathematics-7367> on the AQA web site.



Awarding body - AQA
LEVEL OF COURSE - A LEVEL



WOLGARSTON HIGH SCHOOL

Geography

Course outline

During the course three topics in Physical and three topics in Human Geography will be examined. Students will also complete a geographical investigation written report (non-examined) that is based on data collected in the field from fieldwork undertaken on at least four occasions, giving students the opportunity to apply their mathematical, analytical and literacy skills through their studies.

How you will study and be assessed

Lessons will be based on theory and case studies which illustrate key themes and theories. Some lessons towards the end of year 12 will be dedicated to support you in your geographical investigations. You will be taught by experienced teachers. In support of the teaching and learning in class you will be expected to complete homework and additional reading around the topic. Each topic will be assessed by an end of unit key assessment.

The final examination consists of 1 paper for Physical Geography and 1 paper for Human Geography assessing knowledge from the whole course, each examination is worth 40% of the overall grade. The Geographical Investigation report is worth 20% of the overall grade which is internally marked (non-examined).

Who would suit the course?

- Students who are interested in the world around them and how the world is changing and responding to changes.
- Students who enjoy carrying out fieldwork, handling data and solving problems.

Possible career pathways

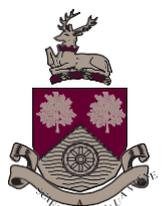
Cartographer, Commercial/residential surveyor, Environmental consultant, Geographical information systems officer, Planning and development surveyor, Secondary school teacher, Town planner, International aid/development worker, Landscape architect, Logistics and distribution manager, Market researcher, Nature conservation officer, Sustainability consultant, Tourism officer, Transport planner

For further information see

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/geography/as-and-a-level/geography-7037> on the AQA web site.



Awarding body - AQA
LEVEL OF COURSE - A LEVEL



WOLGARSTON HIGH SCHOOL

Health and Social Care

Course outline

The course aims to provide an introduction to the health and social care sector. It is designed for post-16 students with an interest in health and social care and aiming to progress to higher education.

The units covered in this qualification are:

- Human Lifespan and Development
- Human Biology and Health
- Health and Social Care Practice
- Promoting Health Education OR Health Science.

How you will study and be assessed

It includes a range of assessment types including internal assessments, assignment tasks and external exams. Both internally and externally assessed units are individually graded as either Pass, Merit or Distinction, and each final unit grade is allocated points. The total points scored across all units are used to calculate the final qualification grade. Lessons will consist of theory or practical-based sessions and guest speakers will be invited in to share their knowledge of working in the health and social care sector as well as visits to local facilities made to enhance learning.

Who would suit the course?

This course provides a broad basis of study for the health and social care sector. It is designed to support progression to higher education when taken as part of a programme of study that includes other appropriate BTEC Nationals or A Levels.

Possible career pathways

Students may pursue careers in the health and social care sector such as Nursing, Paramedics, Primary Education, Social Work, Occupational therapy and Counselling to name but a few!

For further information see

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/ntec-nationals/health-and-social-care-aag.html> on the Pearson web site



Awarding body - PEARSON
LEVEL OF COURSE – LEVEL 3



WOLGARSTON HIGH SCHOOL

History

Course outline

Three different units are studied. The American Dream: Reality and Illusion, 1945-1980; The Tudors: England, 1485-1603 and a Historical Enquiry (NEA) on Witch-hunting 1560-1660. Students will cover both breadth and depth issues of change, continuity, cause and consequence and focus on key ideas, events and developments over time. Students must study the value of historian interpretations and the accuracy of sources as well as reach substantiated judgements on key issues. Strong literacy skills will be valuable for this essay-based subject.

How you will study and be assessed

You will be taught by specialist teachers for each unit. Lessons will involve teacher presentations, class discussion, written tasks, evaluative tasks, use of media as well as group/paired work. You will use a range of primary and secondary sources to reach judgements. You will be assessed in class through regular timed essays and source/historian evaluations as well as through home-learning essays and practice exams.

The final examination consists of two separate two-and-a-half hour exams, each containing four questions of which three must be answered. You will also be internally assessed through a non-examined assessment (NEA) of 4,500 words on a topic of your choosing relating to witch-hunting.

Who would suit the course?

History is ideal for students who enjoy research, analysis, investigation and debating an issue. It is suitable for those who have a strong grasp of literacy, an ability to work well independently and those who can express themselves in an analytical manner.

Possible career pathways

History leads to a variety of potential careers. It is particularly suited to Education, Journalism, Law, Museum and Archivist work, Police, Public Relations, Social Work and Business Management.

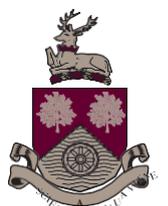
For further information see

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/history/as-and-a-level/history-7041-7042> on the AQA web site



Awarding body - AQA

LEVEL OF COURSE - A LEVEL



WOLGARSTON HIGH SCHOOL

Maths

Course outline

The new A-Level is a 2 year course, with all exams taken at the end of the second year. The content is 100% prescribed, containing a mix of pure mathematics, statistics and mechanics. There are 9 pure mathematics topics and 5 topics each for statistics and mechanics.

How you will study and be assessed

Lessons will consist of theory sessions in which you will be taught key mathematical skills. You will also be encouraged to develop the ability to explore mathematical concepts and establish reasoned arguments and ultimately proofs for some mathematical results. The use of technology plays an important part in this new A-level, you will learn how to use calculator functions efficiently and in the statistics work you will be required to explore a large data set using statistical packages on a computer.

To support of the teaching and learning in class, you will be expected to complete work outside of lessons. You will be guided in this through tasks set and be given access to a wide range of resources to help your independent study. Throughout the course, you will receive feedback on your progress in lessons and on specific key pieces of work. In addition each main topic will be assessed by a written test.

The final examination consists of three separate papers assessing knowledge from the whole course. Paper 1 will just contain pure mathematics; Paper 2, both pure and mechanics; and Paper 3 will have another two sections covering pure and statistics.

Who would suit the course?

Students who enjoy working with algebra and solving problems, as this forms the basis of much of the pure mathematics. Students who are willing to work hard and learn new topics thoroughly.

Possible career pathways

Students may pursue careers in engineering, science, teaching, business, computing, industry, finance and research.

For further information see

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/mathematics/as-and-a-level/mathematics-7357> on the AQA web site.



Awarding body - AQA
LEVEL OF COURSE - A LEVEL



WOLGARSTON HIGH SCHOOL

Media

Course outline

You will study how the media is a highly powerful force in society. You'll find contemporary, diverse topics, helping you to develop researching and problem-solving skills as well as your creativity. You will both study and create media products.

There are 4 key areas of subject content:

1. Media language (exploring how meaning is constructed)
2. Media representation (analysing how different groups of people or places are shown in the media and how these representations are formed)
3. Media industries (examining the institutions that create media products such as the BBC, Sky, independent producers, their ethical values, how this affects production and regulation)
4. Media audiences (analysing how audiences respond to media texts and typical audience behaviours)

How you will study and be assessed

You will be taught by experienced teachers and you will be assessed through Key Pieces, where feedback will be given on the accuracy of your knowledge of terminology and theories. You will also complete production work guided by a set brief from AQA.

Who would suit the course?

Students who enjoy watching television, using social media and are interested in learning more about how media representations are formed. Students must be prepared to learn terminology and theories and be able to apply these to a wide variety of media texts.

Possible career pathways

After studying Media, some students move into practical aspects of the media industries such as camerawork, editing and sound engineering. Many students also move on to study sociology, education and teaching, marketing, journalism, creative writing, social work, art and design or photography. Most career pathways are open due to the analytical nature of the course.

For further information see

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/media-studies/as-and-a-level/media-studies-7572> on the AQA website



Awarding body - AQA
LEVEL OF COURSE - A LEVEL



WOLGARSTON HIGH SCHOOL

Physics

Course outline

In the first year, students cover familiar subjects in more depth like mechanics, materials, electricity and waves, and also new exciting topics like particle physics and quantum phenomena.

In the second year, students are introduced to new topics including thermal physics, nuclear physics, fields in physics and further mechanics. There is also an options topic in astrophysics, with other options available if appropriate, including medical and engineering physics.

Throughout the course practical skills and investigations are integrated into the topics.

How you will study and be assessed

Experienced teachers will support you during theory and practical based work, most taking place in our well equipped science laboratories. The teaching and learning will be supported by a course textbook, and various other resources including packs of past questions and online materials. Key assessments will take place every half-term, feedback will be given and students are expected to act on feedback and plan their next steps to improve.

The final examination consists of three separate papers, the first two examining the compulsory components taught over the two years, and the final examining the option topic, practical skills and data analysis.

Who would suit the course?

Students who are interested in how the universe works, from the largest cluster of galaxies to the smallest subatomic particles like quarks and neutrinos. They should have good problem solving skills and an enjoyment in using maths and logic to reach solutions.

Possible career pathways

Students may pursue many varied careers, including engineering (general mechanical, aeronautical, civil, electrical, etc.), research science, medical physics and medicine, and any career that values problem solving skills such as commerce and banking.

For further information see

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/as-and-a-level/physics-7407-7408> on the AQA website.



Awarding body - AQA
LEVEL OF COURSE - A LEVEL



WOLGARSTON HIGH SCHOOL

Politics

Course outline

You will study political participation focusing on issues such as political parties, voting behaviour and the media. You will also study a range of political ideas such as socialism and feminism and assess the interrelationship between the different branches of government in the UK. In addition, you will study issues in the politics of the USA drawing comparisons with the UK and using examples from the 2020 election.

How you will study and be assessed

Specialist teachers for each unit will teach you. Lessons will involve teacher presentations, class discussion, written tasks, evaluative tasks and use of media as well as group/paired work.

You will use a range of resources and be expected to keep up with current affairs. You will be assessed in class through regular timed questions and practice exams. The final exam consists of three two hour exams with a choice of extended answer questions, some of which contain sources.

Who would suit the course?

Anyone who is fascinated by current affairs, ideologies and the changing global political landscape. An interest in sharing ideas through debate is also essential, as is the ability to work independently to understand a range of intellectually challenging concepts. Strong literacy skills will be valuable for this course.

Possible career pathways

Research, journalism and media, law, social work, local government, international organisations and the civil service.

For further information see

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-a-levels/politics-2017.html>

Awarding body - EDEXCEL



WOLGARSTON HIGH SCHOOL

Psychology

Course outline

During the course eleven topic areas are studied including approaches in psychology, biopsychology, social influence, memory, attachment, clinical psychology and mental health, cognition and development, schizophrenia, forensic, issues and debates and research methods.

Students must be able to demonstrate literacy, science and mathematics skills.

How you will study and be assessed

Lessons will involve teacher presentations of core theories and research combined with written tasks and small group activities, such as poster presentation and peer teaching. Discussions and debates are also a regular feature.

End of topic assessments are conducted in timed conditions in the classroom and you will be expected to plan and revise for the written assessments during private study. You will be taught and assessed by an experienced teacher and examiner and will receive feedback for key pieces of work.

The final examination consists of three separate two-hour papers assessing knowledge from the entire course. There is no coursework element.

Who would suit the course?

Students who are interested in how the human mind works and why people behave the way they do, and who also like the idea of learning a wide range of new and fascinating topic areas, should enjoy studying psychology. It is also suitable for those who enjoy designing their own research and carrying out practical investigations.

Possible career pathways

Psychology is relevant to any profession which involves working directly with people. Specific psychology careers include, amongst others, Clinical Psychologist, Educational Psychologist and Forensic Psychologist, but is also useful for a number of related areas including: Police, Social Work, Nursing, Teaching, Public Relations, Customer Services, Business Management, Physiotherapy and Medicine.

For further information see

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/psychology/a-level/psychology-7182/specification> on the AQA web site



Awarding body - AQA
LEVEL OF COURSE – A LEVEL



WOLGARSTON HIGH SCHOOL

Sociology

Course outline

During the course four core topic areas are studied, which are Education, Families & Households, Media and Crime & Deviance. You will also learn about sociological methods.

Students must be able to demonstrate strong literacy skills for extended essay writing.

How you will study and be assessed

Lessons will involve teacher presentations of core theories and research combined with written tasks and small group activities, such as poster presentation and peer teaching. Discussions and debates are also a regular feature.

End of topic assessments are conducted in timed conditions in the classroom and you will be expected to plan and revise for the written assessments during private study. You will be taught and assessed by an experienced teacher and examiner and will receive feedback for key pieces of work.

The final examination consists of three separate two-hour papers assessing knowledge from the entire course. There is no coursework element.

Who would suit the course?

Students who are interested in social issues and inequalities, who enjoy discussing and debating current issues in society and hold an interest in recent social history. For example, examining reasons for differential achievement, according to gender, class and ethnicity, in education. Students interested in criminology will enjoy learning about different explanations for offending. Generally, those who have achieved in subjects such as English, History, Geography and RE are likely to engage and achieve in Sociology.

Possible career pathways

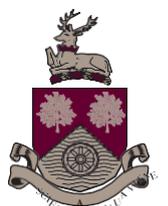
Sociology is relevant to careers such as the police, probation service, law, nursing, midwifery, journalism, the prison service, social work and teaching.

For further information see

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/sociology/a-level/sociology-7192/specification> on the AQA web site.



Awarding body - AQA
LEVEL OF COURSE - A LEVEL



WOLGARSTON HIGH SCHOOL

Sport

Course outline

During the course students will study a wide range of units. Students who opt for the Single Award will study 4 units, which will include Anatomy & Physiology and Fitness Training. Students who study for the Double Award will undertake a further 5 units (9 in total) with extra units including topics such as Sports Leadership.

Students are assessed internally through assignment based work, but also externally through written exams and timed set tasks which take place under exam conditions and are marked by the exam board.

How you will study and be assessed

This course contains a heavy practical participation requirement as well as a large degree of theoretical understanding and therefore lessons will be both practical and classroom based. In support of the teaching and learning in class you will be expected to complete homework and independent revision in anticipation of the written exams. You will need to complete coursework tasks throughout the course and meet set deadlines.

Who would suit the course?

This course would suit students with a passion for sport. Students would need to be thoroughly committed to sport and exercise and keen to participate in any activity. A keen interest in the whole subject area will be required due to the vast range of units studied. Students would also need to be willing to volunteer to assist in a range of events in order to broaden their experience.

Possible career pathways

Students may pursue careers in Sports Development, Sports Business Management, Sports Science, Exercise and Fitness, Sports Psychology, and Physical Education.

For further information see

<http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-nationals/sport-2016.html#tab-5> on the Pearson website



Awarding body - PEARSON

LEVEL OF COURSE -LEVEL 3 (SINGLE OR DOUBLE)



WOLGARSTON HIGH SCHOOL