



SIXTH FORM

Options Booklet

September 2018

‘Our School has a Mind to be Kind’

Aspire to Achieve



COURSE OFFER – SEPTEMBER 2018

- ♦ Applied Sciences BTEC
- ♦ Art - Fine
- ♦ Art - Graphic Design
- ♦ Art - Photography
- ♦ Biology
- ♦ Business Studies
- ♦ Chemistry
- ♦ Child Care BTEC
- ♦ Computer Science
- ♦ Core Maths
- ♦ Dance
- ♦ Design & Technology
- ♦ Drama & Theatre Studies
- ♦ Economics
- ♦ English Language & Literature
- ♦ English Literature
- ♦ Food Science & Nutrition Level 3
- ♦ French
- ♦ Further Maths
- Geography
- Government & Politics
- History
- ♦ ICT BTEC Level 3
- ♦ Law
- ♦ Mathematics
- ♦ Media Studies
- ♦ Music
- ♦ Music BTEC
- ♦ Performing Arts BTEC single award
- ♦ Performing Arts BTEC double award
- ♦ Philosophy & Ethics (RS)
- ♦ Physical Education
- ♦ Physics
- ♦ Psychology
- ♦ Sociology
- ♦ Spanish
- ♦ Sport & PE Cambridge Tech

Making the right choices

Bushey Meads School has an inclusive Sixth Form where students at all levels at the end of their KS4 study are supported to achieve beyond national expectations. All students will choose a personalised curriculum that consists of A level study, vocational study, or a combination of the two. As a guide, for students choosing to study 4 A level subjects they would usually have achieved a minimum of five GCSE grades at levels 4-9, A* to C (grade 5 in English Language and Maths). All entry requirements for each personalised curriculum offer will be discussed at interview. Some subjects have specific entry requirements, so please read each course page carefully.

Please note: All courses are currently planned for September 2018. Minor changes may be made later this year as a result of student demand and staffing. Some courses will run as part of our twilight sessions which are scheduled to end at 4.15 and this will be confirmed once timetabling has been undertaken. In line with usual practice, courses with insufficient demand may not be offered in Year 12.

Applied Sciences

BTEC

Level 3 Extended Certificate



Full specification is available at:

<http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-nationals/applied-science-2016.html#tab-1>

Key Features:

This is a two year vocational course in which students will cover the following units:

Unit 1: Principles and Applications of Science I

Unit 2: Practical Scientific Procedures and Techniques

Unit 3: Science Investigation Skills

Unit 8: Physiology of Human Body Systems

Unit 1 is an externally assessed exam, unit 3 is an externally assessed practical and units 2 and 8 are internally assessed assignments.

Topics Covered:

Year 12 - Unit 1 and unit 2 only from list above

Year 13 - Unit 3 and unit 8 from list above

Course Requirements

You will need to be confident with performing practical experiments.

You will hopefully have studied Science at GCSE level, but this is not essential.

You must have a keen interest in science and a real commitment to the subject, particularly in performance of practical procedures and the practice required.

Who to see?

Mr. Green - email: greenm@busheymeads.org.uk

Art - Fine



Full specification is available at:

<http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-a-levels/art-and-design-2015.html>

Key Features

Students will develop their knowledge and skills with materials, practices and technology within art.

- They will also develop their imaginative and creative powers.
- Students will develop skills in interpreting and conveying ideas and feelings.

Topics Covered

To achieve the AS award you need to complete two units

Component 1: (60%) You will learn how to use visual language and practices to express your ideas as well as discover how to work from a given theme

Component 2 : (40%) An externally set assignment. A question paper will be set at the beginning of the Autumn term

Students taking the full A Level study component 1 in Y12 and Y13 and study component 2 in Y13.

Course Requirements

5 grade 5 GCSE's including a grade 5 at GCSE Art, but this is not essential if an adequate portfolio of artwork is shown.

Who to see?

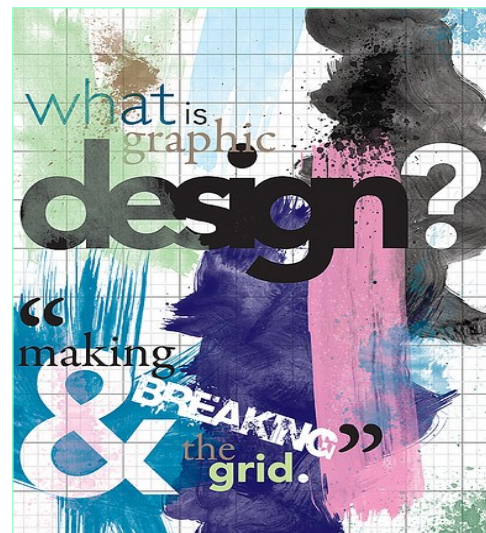
Mr Heywood.

Email: heywooda@busheymeads.org.uk

Art - Graphic Design

Full specification is available at:

<http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-a-levels/art-and-design-2015.html>



Key Features

Students will explore the way Graphic Design reflects and influences contemporary tastes and styles and has connections to the wider historical context of Art and Design.

- Work is developed using a range of techniques and processes including computer assisted graphics.
- Students will produce work that has visual clarity, impact, originality and a high standard of technical finish as well as fulfilling its specific function (usually predetermined by a design brief).

The course involves an in-depth exploration of the nature and function of graphic design. Work produced at this level needs to have visual clarity, impact, originality and a high standard of technical finish as well as fulfilling its specific function (usually predetermined by a design brief).

Topics Covered

Component 1: (60%) You will learn how to use visual language and practices to express your ideas as well as discover how to work from a given design brief.

Component 2: (40%) An externally set assignment will be issued at the beginning of the Autumn term.

Course Requirements

5 grade 5 GCSE's including a grade 5 at GCSE Art, but this is not essential if an adequate portfolio of artwork is shown.

Who to see?

Mr Heywood.

Email: heywooda@busheymeads.org.uk

Art Photography

Full specification is available at:

<http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-a-levels/art-and-design-2015.html>



Key Features

Students will develop their photographic skills in techniques and process. They will complete internally set coursework projects and projects set by the exam board. Students are required to present their units with a portfolio of images relating to the theme.

Topics Covered

Component 1: (60%) Students will learn practical skills and how to develop their ideas visually. They will use landscape and portrait elements to develop project, drawing on their tastes and interests.

Component 2 : (40%) This is the exam assignment, it follows the same format, However the final piece is under controlled exam conditions.

Course Requirements

You will need at least a grade 5 in English, Art and Design and/or Graphics. Photography has a lot of coursework and it is important that any student allows for this demand on their time.

Who to see?

Mr Heywood.

Email: heywooda@busheymeads.org.uk

Biology



Full specification is available at:

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/as-and-a-Level/biology-7401-7402>

Key Features

- A new syllabus, starting in 2015, nurtures a passion for Biology and lays the foundations for future study for courses such as Biological Sciences, Medicine and research-based careers.
- ♦ Practical work is at the heart of Biology and this course allows you to build these skills throughout the course.
- ♦ You will develop critical thinking skills along with a deepened understanding of how life works.

Topics Covered

The syllabus covers a wide range of fascinating topics, including:

Year 12:

- 1: Biological molecules.
- 2: Cells
- 3: Organisms exchange substances with their environment
- 4: Genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms

Year 13:

5. Energy Transfers in and between organisms
6. Organisms respond to changes in their environment
7. Genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems
8. The control of gene expression

Course Requirements

You will require :

Triple: 6 in Biology plus four other qualifications at grade 6 or above

Trilogy combined: 7 overall or 6 overall and 7 in B2, plus four other qualifications at grade 6 or above

Who to see?

Mr O'Brien

Email: o'briend@busheymeads.org.uk

Business Studies

Full specification is available at:

Full specification available at : <http://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/business/specifications/AQA-7131-7132-SP-2015-V1->



Key Features

- You will get the chance to gain a critical understanding of the functions and decision making within a business
- You will study topics and issues that are relevant in today's society
- You will study key contemporary developments such as digital technology and business ethics, and globalisation is covered throughout the topics.

Topics Covered

Year 12 Content

- 1 What is business?
- 2 Managers, leadership and decision making
- 3 Decision making to improve marketing performance
- 4 Decision making to improve operational performance
5. Decision making to improve financial performance
- 6 Decision making to improve human resource performance

If taken as an AS you will sit paper 1 and 2, these are a combination of multiple choice questions, data response and extended writing that can be taken from any area of the content above.

Year 13

- 7 Analysing the strategic position of a business
- 8 Choosing strategic direction
- 9 Strategic methods: how to pursue strategies
- 10 Managing strategic change

Course Requirements

You will need five GCSEs at grade 4 or above (Grade 4 in English Literature) with a grade 5 in both English Language and Maths. You should have an interest in topical issues and enjoy reading news reports as well as following television documentaries on business issues.

Who to see?

Mrs C Hayward

Email: haywardc@busheymeads.org.uk

Chemistry



Full specification is available at:

http://web.aqa.org.uk/qual/gce/science/chemistry_overview.php?id=03&prev=

Key Features

- The course places the subject firmly in a range of contemporary contexts.
- It introduces students to new areas of chemistry such as nanotechnology and new analytical techniques (Mass Spectrometry, Infra-red Spectroscopy, for example)
- You will acquire a set of experimental analytical techniques which you can use and adapt throughout any career in science.

Topics Covered

To achieve the award you need to complete 3 units.

Unit 1: Foundation Chemistry. Students will be able to:

- Explain the arrangement of subatomic particles within an atoms and how they contribute to the atoms characteristics
- Explain the nature of bonding between atoms and the types of bonding that occur
- Write and balance chemical equations

Unit 2 : Chemistry in Action Students will be able to:

- Understand Hess's Law and use this to calculate the enthalpy changes in certain reactions
- Understand the idea of Equilibrium and how changing the conditions of a reaction can effect an equilibrium constant
- Identify Redox reactions and write half equations by identifying elements oxidation states

Assessment:

- Three exams at the end of Year 13

The decision of whether you will be entered for the AS or A level examinations will be dependent on your achievement throughout the course.

Course Requirements

You will require :

Triple: 6 in Chemistry plus four other qualifications at grade 6 or above.

Additional: 7 overall or 6 overall and 7 in B2, plus four other qualifications at grade 6 or above

Who to see?

Mr. Green - email: greenm@busheymeads.org.uk

Child Care

CACHE Technical Award, Certificate and Diploma in
Childcare and Education

Full specification is available at: www.cache.org.uk/



Key Features

There are three levels to the Early Years Education and Care course:

- ◇ CACHE Level 3 Diploma which is equivalent to two 'A' Levels
- ◇ CACHE Level 3 Certificate which is equivalent to one 'A' Level
- ◇ CACHE Level 3 Award which is equivalent to half an AS Level

All courses prepare learners to become Early Years Educators, enabling them to work with children from birth to 5 years and gain knowledge of children aged 5 to 7 years.

All students on the course will be required to complete regular work placements in various settings over the two year. These work placements are arranged and monitored by school.

Topics covered

Theme 1: Health and well-being

Theme 2: Legislation, frameworks and professional practice

Theme 3: Play, development and learning for school readiness

Theme 4: Professional development

Course Requirements

To study the diploma, students must gain a level 5 in English Language and Maths.

For the certificate and award there are no entrance requirements. However, for all childcare courses, an interest in working with children is desirable. There is no need to have studied childcare in KS4.

Who to see?

Mrs Bowyer

Email: bowyerr@busheymeads.org.uk

Computer Science

A level GCE



Full specification is available at:

<http://ocr.org.uk/Images/170844-specification-accredited-a-level-gce-computer-science-h446.pdf>

Key Features

- emphasis on problem solving using computers
- emphasis on computer programming and algorithms
- emphasis on the mathematical skills used to express computational laws and processes, e.g. Boolean algebra/logic and comparison of the complexity of algorithms
- There is less emphasis on ICT.
- project which is more refined and more focussed on coding

Topics Covered

To achieve the A level award you need to complete 3 components.

Component 1: Computing Principles. This includes: The characteristics of contemporary processors, input, output and storage devices; Software and software development; Exchanging data; Data types, data structures and algorithms; Legal, moral, cultural and ethical issues.

Component 2 : Algorithms and Problem Solving. This includes: Elements of computational thinking; Problem solving and programming; Algorithms.

Component 3: Computing Project. This includes: Analysis of the problem; Design of the solution; Developing the solution; Evaluation.

Course Requirements

You will need at least GCSE Maths and English at grade 5 or above and GCSE Computing or ICT at grade 6 or above.

Who to see?

Ms P Gregory

Email: gregorypbusheymeads.org.uk

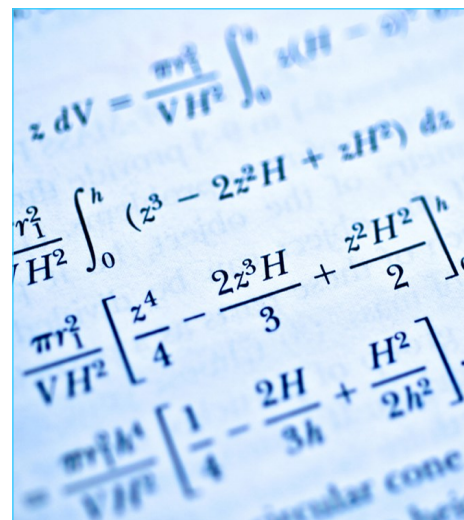
Mathematics In Context (Core Maths)

Full specification is available at:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/mathematics-in-context/2014/specification-and-sample-assessments/>

Specifica-

tion_L3_Certificate_in_Mathematics_in_Context.pdf



Key Features

- Develop competence in the selection and use of mathematical methods and techniques
- Develop confidence in representing and analysing authentic situations mathematically, and in applying mathematics to address related questions and issues
- Build skills in mathematical thinking, reasoning and communication
- Level 3 qualification that secures the following UCAS points: A=60, B=50, C=40, D=30, E=20

Topics Covered

To achieve this qualification., you need to complete two papers:-

Paper 1: Comprehension: 40% of the qualification (1 hour 40 minutes exam paper)

Paper 2: Applications: 60% of the qualification (1 hour 40 minutes exam paper)

Strands studied for both paper: applications of statistics, probability, linear programming, sequence and growth.

Course Requirements

You will require a grade 5 or 6 in GCSE Mathematics to study the Mathematics in Context qualification. Should you achieve a grade 7 or above in GCSE Mathematics, we would recommend opting for AS Mathematics.

Who to see?

Mr S Varsani

Email: varsanis@busheymeads.org.uk

Dance



Full specification is available at:

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/dance/as-and-a-level/dance-7237>

Key Features

- A practical approach to A-level study
- A chance to develop creative and analytical study skills
- An opportunity to develop cultural awareness through the study of different dance practices, genres and styles
- Inspiration for a lifelong passion and appreciation for dance

Topics Covered

Performance and Choreography

Solo performance linked to a specified practitioner within an area of study

Performance in a quartet

Group choreography

How it's assessed

Practical exam

Critical Engagement

Knowledge, understanding and critical appreciation of two set works

One compulsory set work within the compulsory area of study

One optional set work within the corresponding area of study, from a choice of four

Written exam

Course Requirements:

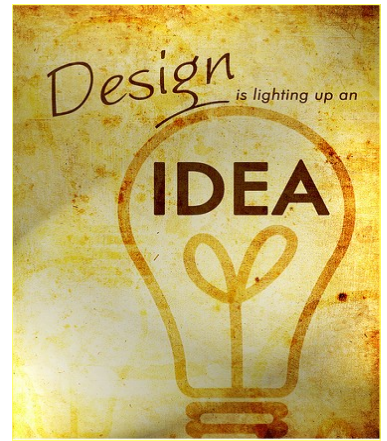
You will need 5 GCSEs grade 4 and above. It would be an advantage to have studied GCSE Dance or another level 2 Performing Arts qualification.

Who to see?

Mrs E Rosa or Miss N Miller

Email: rowdene@busheymeads.org.uk / millern@busheymeads.org.uk

Design & Technology:



- Design engineering
- 3D Product design
- Fashion and Textiles

Full specification is available at:

www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/as-a-level-gce-design-and-technology

Key Features

- You will develop your creativity with a focus on iterative and innovative design.
- You will learn about the real world of design and product manufacture.
- You can specialise in **design engineering, product design or fashion and textiles**
- You will develop your making skills through a range of trialling and prototype work leading to the manufacture of fully functional products.

Topics Covered

To achieve the A Level award you need to complete three units.

Unit 01: **Principles of design and manufacturing** – This written exam paper will test your ability to analyse existing products and your knowledge of materials and processes.

Unit 02: **Design based problem solving** and understanding of sustainability. This written paper will test your ability to react to a design challenge under exam conditions.

Unit 03: **Iterative Design project**—This is an individual project where you undertake a substantial design, make and evaluate project centred on the iterative processes of explore, create and evaluate.

The A Level course allows you to specialise in a chosen area as outlined below:

- ♦ **Design Engineering is focused towards engineered and electronic products and systems**
- ♦ **Fashion and Textiles is focused towards fashion and textiles products and accessories in a range of applications**
- ♦ **Product Design is focused towards 3D products and applications**

Course Requirements:

A minimum of at least level 4 in Design & Technology, Maths and English. We strongly advise you have a passion and interest in creative designing and making.

Who to see?

Mr Chalkley - Email: chalkleyd@busheymeads.org.uk

Drama and Theatre Studies



Full specification is available at:

<http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-a-levels/drama-and-theatre-2016.html>

Key Features

- A practical approach to A-level study
- A chance to develop creative and analytical study skills as well as developing your ability to work independently and as part of a team
- An opportunity to develop cultural awareness through the different plays, genres and styles.

Topics Covered

Year 12:

Text in Performance: You will study and perform extracts from two published plays: a group performance and either a monologue or duologue. You may alternatively study performance support options such as lighting, sound, costume, set design and make-up.

Theatre Makers in Practice: You will study 'That Face' through exploration and rehearsal and write a theatre review.

Year 13:

Devising: You will create and perform an original piece of theatre.

Theatre Makers in Practice: You will plan your own production of 'The Maids'.

Course Requirements

You will need five GCSEs at level 4. It would be an advantage to have studied GCSE Drama (grade 4) or another level 2 Performing Arts qualification and have English Literature level 5.

Who to see?

Mr G Knowles

Email: knowlesg@busheymeads.org.uk

Economics



Full specification is available at:

<http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-a-levels/economics-a-2015.html>

Key features

- debating economic issues such as inequality, immigration and how we should pay for healthcare
- using and interpreting data to analyse economic problems discussing alternative courses of action
- keeping up to date with national and international trends

Topics Covered

Course content

Year 12

Theme 1 introduces students to markets and market failure

Theme 2 introduces students to performance and policies issues for the UK economy

There are 2 externally assessed papers at AS level. Each paper comprises 80 marks and is 1.5 hours in duration. Questions comprise short answer, data response and essay.

Year 13

Theme 3 explores business behaviour and the labour market

Theme 4 explores the global perspective

There are 3 externally assessed papers at A level. Each paper comprises 100 marks and is 2 hours in duration. Questions comprise short answer, data response and essay.

Course requirements

You will need five GCSEs at grade 4 or above (Grade 4 in English Literature) with a grade 5 in both English Language and Maths. You should have an interest in topical issues and enjoy reading news reports, as well as following television documentaries on economic issues.

Who to see

Mrs Claire Hayward

Email: haywardc@busheymeads.org.uk

English Language and Literature



Full specification is available at:

<http://www.edexcel.com>

- follow links to English Language and Literature

Key Features

- You'll produce your own creative writing pieces
- You'll encounter many kinds of texts - spoken and written; literary and non literary and learn how to explore these texts creatively and analytically.

Topics Covered:

Unit 1: Voices in Speech and Writing: Exam 40% of A Level

This unit is a literary study (of a drama text), and a study of linguistics (focusing especially on how talk functions).

Unit 2: Varieties in Language and Literature: Exam 40% of A Level

This is a themed study (e.g. Love and Loss/Crossing Boundaries) of two linked texts.

Unit 3: Coursework: 20% of A Level

Two pieces of creative writing (and a commentary), from the candidates free choice of literature or non-literary texts.

You will read texts like:

Tennessee Williams—'A Streetcar Named Desire', 'The Great Gatsby', poetry etc.

Course Requirements

You will need to have obtained at least one level 5 and one level 6, in either combination, in your English Language and English Literature GCSE's.

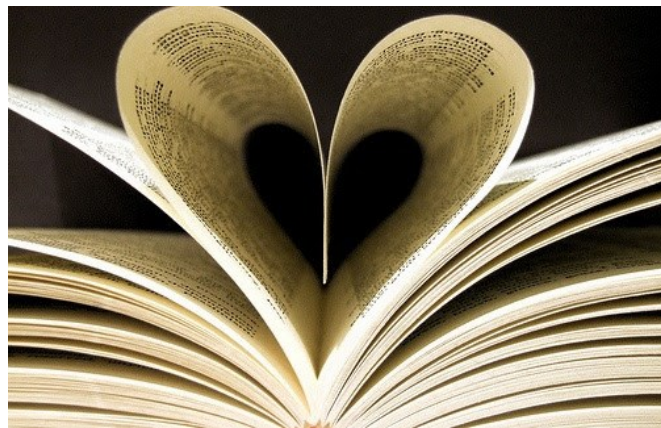
A love of reading (of any kind of text), an analytical mind and a willingness to discuss and debate are all desirable qualities.

Who to see?

Ms Court

Email: court1@busheymeads.org.uk

English Literature



Full specification is available at:
aqa.org.uk

Key Features

Key skills you will learn in this course are essay-writing skills, and the planning of a critical argument. You will learn the command of critical vocabulary and formal language along with a grasp of how historical and cultural contexts shape the meanings of literary texts.

You must enjoy reading, independent thinking, exploration and examination of a sometimes complex narrative. It's all about providing evidence of an author's implied intentions, making reasoned assumptions as to what part the reader is supposed to play, and understanding how narratives are constructed.

Topics Covered

Paper 1: Love Through The Ages

Written exam: 3 hours - 40% of A Level.

We will study a Shakespeare play, poetry and a prose text and how they represent love within their historical context.

Paper 2 : Texts in Shared Contexts

Written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes - 40% of A Level

Our texts will focus upon a specific theme, such as war or the portrayal of women.

Coursework: Texts Across Time

Coursework unit - 20% of A Level

You will compare two texts of your choice, (including one pre- 1900 text), and write a comparative critical study on a theme.

Texts may include:

'Othello', 'The Great Gatsby', 'A Streetcar Named Desire', poems by Duffy, 'A Handmaid's Tale'

Course Requirements

We require a level 6 or higher in both English Literature and English Language.

Successful students will be those who enjoy reading and can work independently on texts.

Who to see?

Ms Court

Email: court1@busheymeads.org.uk

Food Science and Nutrition

Level 3 Diploma



Full specification is available at:

<http://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/food-science-and-nutrition/food-science-and-nutrition-level-3-from-2015.html>

Key Features:

An understanding of food science and nutrition is relevant to many industries and job roles. Care providers and nutritionists in hospitals use this knowledge, as do sports coaches and fitness instructors. Hotels and restaurants, food manufacturers and government agencies also use this understanding to develop menus, food products and policies that support healthy eating initiatives. Many employment opportunities within the field of food science and nutrition are available to graduates.

This course also provides opportunities for candidates to develop key skills in the areas of Communication, Application of Number, Information Technology, Working with Others, Improving Own Learning and Performance and Problem Solving.

Topics Covered:

Year 12 - Unit one is complete to ensure all learners achieve Level 3 Certificate in Food Science and Nutrition

Year 13 - Unit 2 and either Unit 3 or 4 to complete the diploma

Assessment: The following units are internally assessed:

Unit 1: Meeting Nutritional Needs of Specific Groups. This unit is also **externally** assessed.

Unit 3: Experimenting to Solve Food Production Problems

Unit Number	Unit Title	Structure	Assessment
1	Meeting Nutritional Needs of Specific Groups	Mandatory	Internal and External
2	Ensuring Food is Safe to Eat	Mandatory	External
3	Experimenting to Solve Food Production Problems	Optional	Internal
4	Current Issues in Food Science and Nutrition	Optional	Internal

Course Requirements

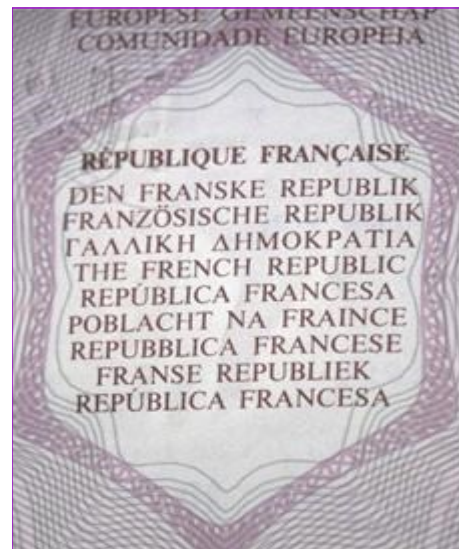
You will need 5 GCSEs grade 4 and above. It would be an advantage to have studied GCSE Food or Catering.

Who to see?

Mrs Hanbury

Email: hanburya@busheymeads.org.uk

French Language



Full specification is available at:

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/languages/as-and-a-level/french-2650>

Key Features

- You will become much more fluent and able to discover the culture and history of the target language country
- Your chances of employment will rise considerably

Paper 1: Listening, reading and writing

- Written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes 50% of A Level

What's assessed:

- Aspects of French speaking society: current trends
- Aspects of French-speaking society: current issues
- Artistic culture in the French-speaking world
- Grammar

Paper 2: Writing

- Written exam: 2 hours 20% of A Level

What's assessed:

- One text and one film or two texts from the list set in the specification
- Grammar

Paper 3: Speaking

- Oral exam: 21-23 minutes (including 5 minutes preparation time) 30% A Level

What's assessed:

- Individual research project
- One of four themes (Aspects of French-speaking society: current trends, Aspects of French-speaking society: current issues, Artistic culture in the French-speaking world, Aspects of political life in the French-speaking world)

Course requirements

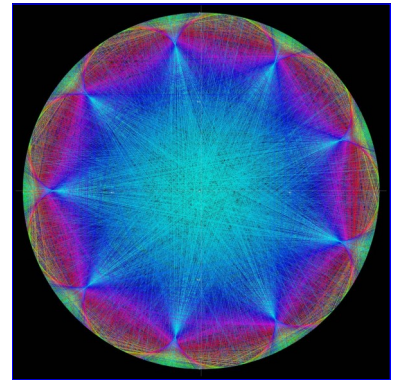
You will need at least a Grade 6 in French to continue to AS/A2 level.

Who to see?

Mrs Paddick

Email: paddickn@busheymeads.org.uk

Further Maths



Full specification is available at:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-a-levels/mathematics-2017.html#tab-0>

Key Features

- Developing an ability to reason logically and to construct mathematical proofs.
- Recognising how a problem can be represented mathematically.
- Increasing an awareness of coherence and progression in Mathematics.
- Core requirement for many mathematical related degrees.

Topics Covered

To achieve the AS award you need to complete two units.

Further Pure Mathematics 1: 50% of qualification (1h 30min exam paper)

Topics covered: Proof; Complex numbers; Matrices; Further algebra and functions; Further calculus; Further vectors

Further Maths Options Paper: 50% of qualification (1h 30min exam paper)

One of the following units will be studied: Further Pure Mathematics 2, Further Statistics; Further Mechanics; Decision Maths

Course Requirements

You will need to have achieved a grade 8 in GCSE Mathematics and be studying Mathematics AS level.

Who to see?

Mr Varsani

Email: varsanis@busheymeads.org.uk

Geography

Full specification is available at:

<http://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/geography/as-a-level/>



Key Features

- A level Geography centres on a range of fascinating topics drawn from both physical and human geography
- You will have the opportunity for learning outside the classroom with fieldwork
- You will learn geographical theories and case study examples of the topics covered

Topics Covered

Changing Landscapes and Changing Places. This explores glaciated landscapes and the processes involved in their creation as well as how places and perceptions of them change as a result of political, economic and social factors. This study includes a fieldtrip to the Lake District. (Year 12)

Global Systems and Global Governance. This unit examines water and carbon cycles, issues relating to migration and use of the world's oceans and the challenge in the 21st century of resolving conflicting needs and planning for the future. (Year 13)

Contemporary themes in Geography. This includes tectonic hazards (earthquakes and volcanoes) and an optional theme to be decided (Year 13)

Independent Investigation. An essay of 3000-4000 words based on fieldwork (Year 12)

Course Requirements

It is recommended that you have achieved a grade 5 or above in either Geography or one of the other humanities if you wish to succeed at A Level.

Who to see?

Ms Skevington

Email: skevingtono@busheymeads.org.uk

Government and Politics



Full specification is available at:

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

Key Features

This A Level will encourage interest in and enthusiasm for the study of Government and Politics and will enable students to develop an insight into political beliefs central to an understanding of the modern world. With an emphasis on contemporary political issues.

A variety of modes of assessment will be used, including short-answer questions, stimulus response, extended writing and essays. Students will have a choice of questions within the examinations for each unit. There is no coursework.

Students will develop the skills required to analyse conflicting political viewpoints, including the extent of rivalry between these viewpoints. Debate and discussion is one way this is achieved.

Topics Covered

UK Politics

Political Participation - democracy and participation, political parties, electoral systems, voting behaviour and the media

Core Political Ideas - conservatism, liberalism, socialism.

UK Government - the constitution, parliament, Prime Minister and executive, relationships between the

Political Ideas - one idea from the following: anarchism, ecologism, feminism, multiculturalism, Nationalism.

US Politics

The US Constitution and federalism, US congress, US presidency, US Supreme Court, democracy and participation, civil rights.

Course Requirements

You will need five GCSEs at grade 4 or above and a grade 5 in English Language or Literature. No previous experience of Politics is necessary – very few students have studied this subject at school. However, enthusiasm and willingness to learn are essential.

Who to see?

Ms S Knowles

Email: knowless@busheymeads.org.uk

History

Full specification is available at:

<http://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/170128-specification-accredited-a-level-gce-history-a-h505.pdf> A Level



Key Features

- This is an exciting new course designed to meet new national requirements. In keeping with these students taking the full A level will be examined for the full two year course at the end of Year 13 whilst those taking AS as a standalone qualification will be examined just in the AS modules (units 1 and 2 below) at the end of Year 12
- The course investigates the stories of three countries facing turbulent and dangerous times; England in the 17th century sliding into revolution; Germany coming to terms with the horrors of the First World War and embracing Nazism and the struggle of African Americans and others in modern America for civil rights. In addition the course includes the writing of an extended essay on a topic of the student's own choice – an opportunity to learn more about your favourite period in History
- You will develop skills such as interpretation, comparison, analysis, synthesis and communication
- A qualification in History shows you have the ability to communicate effectively. An awareness of the world in which we live and the events and personalities which have helped create it.

Topics Covered

Unit 1 The Early Stuarts and the Origins of the Civil War 1603-1660

What kind of a king was James I? Was his son Charles I arrogant and aloof or just misunderstood? Why was the country torn apart by civil war? And who was Oliver Cromwell in a “world turned upside down”?

Unit 2 Democracy and Dictatorship in Germany 1919-1963

Why did the Germans vote for a man who openly stated that he would destroy democracy? And how could a man who woke up at lunchtime and spent the afternoon reading the papers really be an all powerful dictator who caused the Second World War and killed six million people?

Unit 3 Civil Rights in the USA 1865-1992

Why did African Americans have to fight for their rights after the abolition of slavery? Why were some groups treated better than others? Who was Malcolm X and what role did he and others play in achieving rights for people in America

Unit 4

An essay on a topic of the student's choice which explains and analyses different perspectives of a historical issue.

Course Requirements

You will need at least a grade 5 if you have completed History GCSE. If you have not studied History GCSE then you will need to have at least 5 GCSEs at grade 5 or above.

Who to see?

Mr Newbold

Email: newboldr@busheymeads.org.uk

Information & Communication Technology

BTEC Level 3



Full specification is available at:

<http://www.edexcel.com/quals/nat/IT-comp/Pages/default.aspx>

Key Features

You can choose between several different qualifications equivalent to an AS or 1, 2 or 3 A Levels. Please see Mr Besisira for more information.

- You will be studying and using computers in a range of situations
- You will be using a wide variety of software and extending the skills that you will use after you leave school .
- You will gain the equivalent of one A level by the end of the two year course
- You will have four units to complete, two of which are exam based - one is a written examination the other is a practical examination.

Topics Covered

The number of units will depend on the level of qualification you choose.

Examples units could include:

- Information Technology Systems
- Creating Systems to Manage Information
- Using Social Media in Business
- Website Development

Course Requirements

You will need at least 5 GCSEs at grade 4 of which one should be English, ICT or Computing.

Who to see?

Mr M Besisira

Email: besisiram@busheymeads.org.uk

Law



Full specification is available at:

<http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/by-subject/law-and-legal-services>

Key Features

You'll get the chance to explore who makes the laws, and why, and to study in depth two key areas of law.

- Through discussion, problem solving, visits and writing, your skills in analysis, recall and evaluation will be developed.

Topics Covered

To achieve the A level you will study:

- The English Legal System, such as the use of juries, lawyers and judges
- Law Making, such legislation, statutory interpretation and judicial precedent
- Criminal Liability, including what makes a criminal offence and offences against the person
- Negligence Liability, including what is negligence and how it can be established
- Fatal and non-fatal offences against the person
- The law of contract

Course Requirements

You will need 5 GCSEs grade 4 or above and at least a grade 5 in English Language.

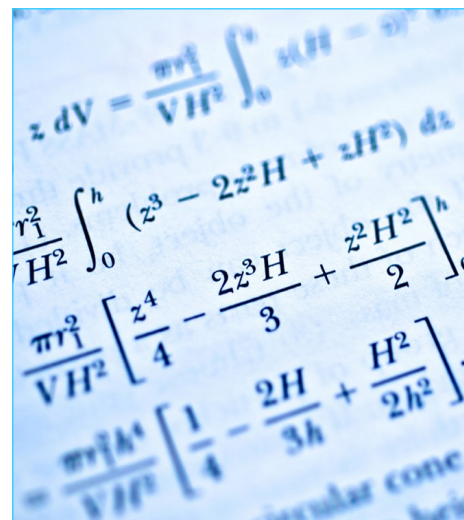
A questioning, lively person, who is interested in current affairs, would be ideal.

Who to see?

Ms S Knowles

Email: knowless@busheymeads.org.uk

Mathematics



Full specification is available at:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-a-levels/mathematics-2017.html#tab-0>

Key Features

- Gain a qualification that is highly respected and valued in all future careers
- Extend your range of Mathematical skills and techniques
- Develop your understanding of Mathematics in a way that promotes confidence and enjoyment
- Increase your awareness of the relevance of Mathematics to other fields of study

Topics Covered

To achieve the AS award you need to complete two units.

Pure Mathematics: 66.66% of the qualification (2 hour exam paper)

Topics covered: Proof; Algebra and functions; coordinate geometry in the (x, y) plane; sequences and series; trigonometry; exponentials and logarithms; differentiation; integration; vectors

Statistics and Mechanics: 33.33% of the qualification (1 hour exam paper)

Topics covered: Statistical sampling; Data presentation and interpretation; Probability; Statistical distributions; Statistical hypothesis testing; Quantities and units in Mechanics; Kinematics; Forces and Newton's laws

Course Requirements

You will require at least a grade 7 in GCSE Mathematics to start AS Maths. Students achieving a Grade 5 or 6 will study Core Maths which is still a level 3 qualification but is more suited to this level of candidate. AS Mathematics supports a number of other A Level subjects, particularly Physics, Biology, Psychology, Economics and Geography. Students will have the opportunity to take part in the individual and team Senior UK Maths Challenge in Years 12 and 13.

Who to see?

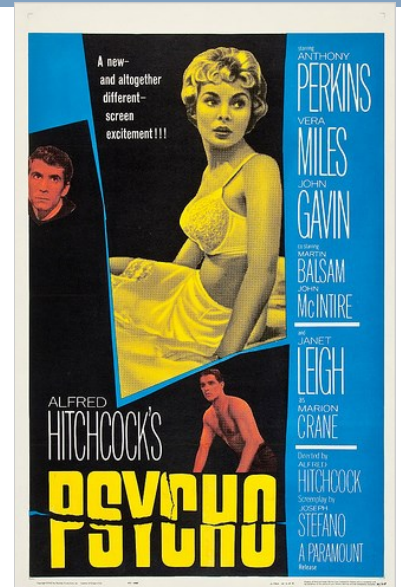
Mr. S. Varsani

Email: varsanis@busheymeads.org.uk

Media Studies

Full specification is available at:

http://web.aqa.org.uk/qual/gce/arts/media_materials.php?id=06&prev=06



Key Features

- You will explore a variety of media products across three main media platforms: Moving image, Print, Broadcast and E-Media
- You will acquire a set of analytical skills that will help you understand and interpret media products.
- You will develop practical skills in video production / editing and graphics design.

Topics Covered

Investigating Media: 70% How it's assessed: Written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes

This unit explores the theory of media production. Subject content: Media Language. Media representation. Media industries. Media audiences.

Creating a Media Product: 30% Internally assessed, externally moderated.

This unit allows students to apply the theoretical concepts to the practical production of media products by responding to an externally set design brief which requires the production of one linked product. Students produce a statement of intent and a media product made for an intended audience e.g. a film trailer.

Course Requirements

You will need at least a grade 5 in English Language.

It would be desirable if you have a love of Film and T.V. and an interest in developing creative practical skills. It is not a requirement that you can draw, but some creative ideas and aesthetic interest will be an advantage, combined with sound writing ability.

Who to see?

Mr. A. Heywood

Email: heywooda@busheymeads.org.uk

Music



Full specification is available at:

<http://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/music/as-a-level/>

Key Features

- Develop composing skills exploring the manipulation of musical ideas and the use of musical devices and conventions
- Broaden musical experience and interests, listening to a variety of styles
- Investigate musical contexts and the diverse heritage of music
- Improve performance skills through different genres of music

Topics Covered

Component 1: Performing (25% or 35%)

Perform both in a solo context or as an ensemble

Component 2: Composing (25% or 35%)

Compose your own pieces, exploring different genres

Component 3: Listening (40%)

Western Classical Tradition: 1750—1900; 20th or 21st Century Music; Jazz, Musical Theatre or Rock and Pop

Listen and analyse music from Mozart to Miles Davis to musical theatre hits, depending on your choice of study.

Course Requirements

You will need to be a good and confident performer, ideally grade 4 or above, with a sound knowledge of your instrument. You will hopefully have studied Music at GCSE level, but this is not essential, however you will need the ability to read music. You must have a keen interest in music and a real commitment to the subject, particularly to performance and the practice required.

Who to see?

Miss Craven

Email: cravenk@busheymeads.org.uk

Music

Level 3 BTEC

Subsidiary Diploma in Music (Performing)



Full specification is available at:

<http://www.edexcel.com/migrationdocuments/BTEC>

Key Features

- This course allows you to study music as a practical, intellectual and creative subject.
- As well as performance-related core units, there are specialist pathways to allow focus on a wide variety of performing techniques, styles and genres.
- Range of music, including classical, popular, jazz and world music.

Topics Covered

There are 6 Units in total. There is one core unit and a choice from two specialist units - to be taken by everyone, and four further units - selected from the optional units list.

Core Unit:

- Music Performance Techniques

Specialist Units:

- Solo Music Performance Skills
- Working and Developing as a Musical Ensemble

Optional Units including: improvisation, modern music, music theatre, pop music, singing, listening and further performance in a group

Course Requirements

You will need to be a good and confident performer with a sound knowledge of your Instrument.

You will hopefully have studied Music at GCSE level, but this is not essential.

You must have a keen interest in music and a real commitment to the subject, particularly to performance and the practice required.

Who to see?

Ms Brown or Ms Craven

Email: browns@busheymeads.org.uk / cravenk@busheymeads.org.uk

Performing Arts

Level 3 BTEC

National Extended Certificate: Single award



Full specification is available at:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-nationals/performing-arts-2016.html#tab-1>

Key Features

- This course allows you to study performing arts in a vocational context.
- You will study acting skills, performing styles and techniques, and be a critical analyser of drama.
- This subject can be taken as a single award (1 option) or double award (2 options)

Topics Covered

Core Units:

- Investigating practitioners' work (contextual study)
- Developing skills/techniques for live performance (acting skills)
- Group performance workshop (devising)

You would also study one optional unit that could cover scriptwriting, directing, acting styles, improvisation, physical theatre, movement, voice, classical text, musical theatre, variety performance, storytelling.

There are options to explore dance or music units for the right student.

Course Requirements

It would be an advantage to have studied drama or performing arts at GCSE level and achieved a level 4 in English language.

The main requirement is a passion for and commitment to performance and theatre.

Who to see?

Mr G Knowles

Email: knowlesg@busheymeads.org.uk

Performing Arts Level 3 BTEC National Diploma: Double award



Full specification is available at:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-nationals/performing-arts-2016.html#tab-3>

Key Features

- This course allows you to study performing arts in a vocational context.
- You will study acting skills, performing styles and techniques, and be a critical analyser of drama.
- This subject can be taken as a single award (1 option) or double award (2 options)

Topics covered

Core Units:

- Investigating practitioners' work (contextual study)
- Developing skills/techniques for live performance (acting skills)
- Group performance workshop (devising)
- Performing arts in the community
- Individual performance commission (monologue)
- Final live performance to an audience

You would also study one optional unit that could cover scriptwriting, directing, acting styles, improvisation, physical theatre, movement, voice, classical text, musical theatre, variety performance, storytelling.

There are options to explore dance or music units for the right student.

Course Requirements

It would be an advantage to have studied drama or performing arts at GCSE level and achieved a level 4 in English language.

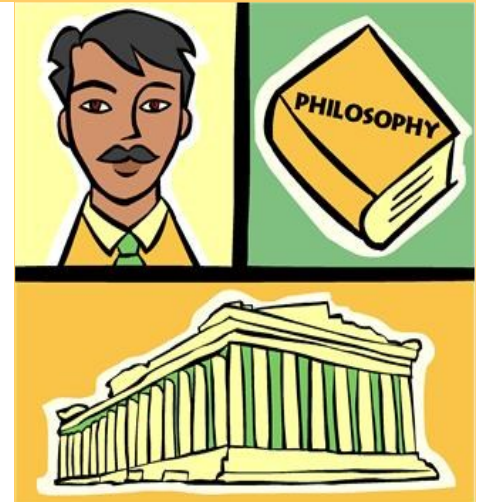
The main requirement is a passion for and commitment to performance and theatre.

Who to see?

Mr G Knowles

Email: knowlesg@busheymeads.org.uk

Philosophy and Ethics



Full Specification is available at:

<http://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/rs/specifications/AQA-7061-SP-2016.PDF>

Key Features:

- It will enable students to develop insights into areas of knowledge, belief and thought central to an understanding of the modern world.
- Through a study of philosophy, ethics and the world's major religions, students will be equipped with a range of knowledge and skills which will help them to make sense of contemporary events.

There are two assessed components. Students must take assessments in both Component 1 and Component 2 in the same exam series.

Subject Content

Component 1: Philosophy of religion and ethics

Section A: Philosophy of religion:

Arguments for the existence of God

Evil and Suffering

Religious Experience

Section B: Ethics and religion:

Ethical theories

Issues of human life and death

Issues of animal life and death

Component 2: Study of religion and dialogues

Section A:

Sources of Wisdom and authority

God/gods/ultimate reality

Self, death and the afterlife

Good conduct and key moral principles

Expression of religious identity

Course Requirements:

You will need 5 GCSE grades 4-9, in subjects such as English (grade 5), Psychology and any Humanities subject. It would be desirable if you have a love of debating, reading, watching current affairs, controversial TV programmes and films.

Who to see?

Miss A. Walters

Email: waltersa@busheymeads.org.uk

Physical Education



Full specification is available at:

<http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/as-a-level-gce-physical-education-h154-h554/>

Key Features

- A fantastic insight into the amazing world of PE, sports performance and sports science.
- An opportunity for students to develop their practical performance levels.
- Range of sporting theory taught in an active learning environment.

Topics Covered

The overall qualification is sub-divided into 4 clear areas:

Physiological factors affecting performance (Applied anatomy and physiology, Exercise physiology, Biomechanics.

Assessed by a written theory paper —30% of overall A Level

Psychological factors affecting performance (Skill acquisition, Sports psychology)

Assessed by a written theory paper—20% of overall A Level

Socio-cultural issues in physical activity and sport (Sport and society, Contemporary issues in physical activity and sport)

Assessed by a written theory paper—20% of overall A Level

Performance in physical education (Performance in one sport, Evaluation and Analysis of Performance for Improvement)

Practical assessment—20%, EAPI (Verbal assessment) 10%

Course Requirements

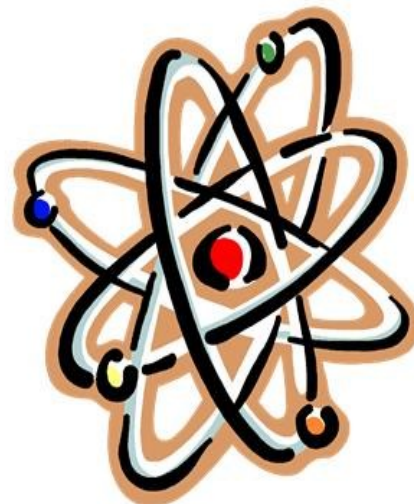
A minimum of a B grade at GCSE PE or a Merit at BTEC Level 2 Sport is required. Those who have not followed a sports course as a Key Stage 4 option but have achieved 5 Grade C/Grade 4s including Maths, English and Science are welcome to apply. Due to the scientific nature of the course a strength in science is desirable and recommended. Students who have followed GCSE PE should have attained a B Grade in the **THEORETICAL ASPECT** of the course. A genuine interest in sport is essential.

Who to see?

Mr A Cartledge HEAD OF PE and HEALTH FACULTY

Email: cartledgea@busheymeads.org.uk

Physics



Full specification is available at:

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

Key Features

- The course places the subject firmly in a range of contemporary contexts.
- It introduces students to new and exciting areas of Physics such as particles and new particles.
- You will acquire a set of experimental analytical techniques you can use and adapt throughout any career in Science.

Topics Covered

Year 12

1. Particles and radiation
2. Waves and optics
3. Mechanics and materials
4. Electricity

Year 13

5. Further mechanics and thermal physics
6. Gravitational, electric and magnetic fields
7. Capacitors
8. Nuclear physics
9. One of the units from the following list: astrophysics, medical physics, engineering physics, turning points in physics or electronics.

Course Requirements

You will require :

Triple: 6 in Physics plus four other qualifications at grade 6 or above

Additional: 7 overall or 6 overall and 7 in P2, plus four other qualifications at grade 6 or above

Grade 6 in Maths is also required due to the numeracy aspect of Physics A-Level.

Who to see?

Miss Booth

Email: boothh@busheymeads.org.uk.

Psychology



Full specification is available at:

<http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/type/gce/hss/psychology/index.html>

Key Features

- You will learn about some of the most famous psychology experiments that have taken place.
- You will learn that there is no one solution to the problems psychology poses
- You will learn how psychology can inform our views about human experience and action
- You will learn how to look at the impact of psychology on everyday life
- It will give you a deeper understanding of your own behaviour and those around you.

Topics Covered

Students will follow the OCR specification.

During the course, students will learn how to plan, analyse and report psychological research across a range of experimental and non-experimental methodologies and techniques. Students will be introduced to some of the central areas of investigation in Psychology by exploring key themes such as "Responses to people in Authority". Each key theme is represented by a classic and a contemporary core study.

In addition to this, students will learn in detail about issues in mental health and will study two out of the following applied options; Child psychology, Criminal psychology, Environmental psychology and Sport & exercise psychology.

Exams at the end of A Level - 3 exams 1) Research Methods 2) Psychological Themes through core studies 3) Applied Psychology

Course Requirements

Five GCSEs at grade 4 or above, with Level 6 in Maths and English Language

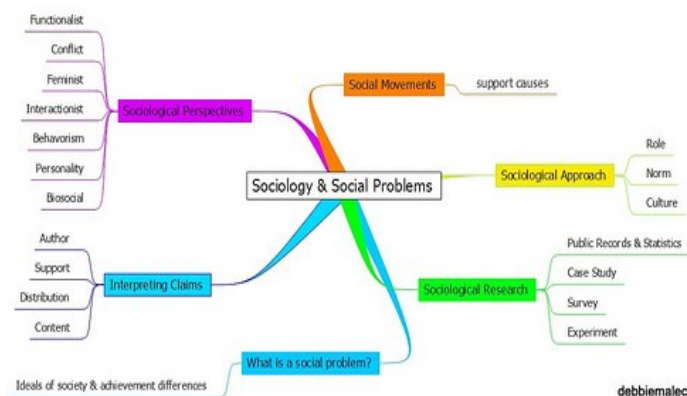
GCSE Psychology is NOT a requirement

Who to see?

Ms S Knowles

Email: knowless@busheymeads.org.uk

Sociology



Full specification is available at:

<http://store.aqa.org.uk/qual/gce/pdf/AQA-2190-W-SP.PDF>

Key Features

- You will develop critical and reflective skills, vital for HE and working life.
- You will develop understanding and respect for differences between people.
- You will acquire a much greater awareness of the social processes and social changes that affect everyday lives e.g. the impact of poverty on educational achievement.

Topics Covered

Students will follow the AQA (A) specification. During the course, students will:

- learn about the Education system as well as Families and Households.
- examine the role and functions of the education system, including its relationship to the economy and to class structure.
- learn how to apply sociological research methods to the study of education as well as how sociologists plan, conduct and analyse all of their research.
- engage in debates over whether or not the traditional nuclear family even still exists.
- examine the role and impact of the 'Media' in today's society.
- analyse how the media represents age, social class, ethnicity, gender, sexuality and disabilities.
- gain a critical awareness of crime, deviance, social order and social control. They will examine the social distribution of crime and deviance by ethnicity, gender and social class and explore recent patterns and trends in crime.
- learn how to apply sociological research methods to the study of crime and deviance. By doing this, student will gain a solid understanding of key theorist and debates which underpin the study of sociology.

Exams at the end of A Level - 3 exams: 1) Education with Research Methods in Context 2) Topics in Sociology and Research Methods 3) Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods

Course Requirements

You will need to have five GCSEs at grade 4 or above, a Level 6 or above in English Language, as well as the enthusiasm, drive and ability to discover new forms of learning. An interest in the world around you and social issues relevant to everyday life will enable you to immediately engage with the topics.

Who to see?

Ms S Knowles

Email: knowless@busheymeads.org.uk

Spanish Language



Full specification is available at:

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/languages/as-and-a-level/spanish-7692>

Key Features

- You will become much more fluent and able to discover the culture and history of the target language country
- Your chances of employment will rise considerably

Paper 1: Listening, reading & writing Written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes 50% of A Level

What's assessed:

- Aspects of Spanish-speaking society: current trends
- Aspects of Spanish-speaking society: current issues
- Artistic culture in the Spanish-speaking world
- Aspects of Political life in the Spanish-speaking world
- Grammar

Paper 2: Writing Written exam: 2 hours 20% of A Level

What's assessed:

- One text and one film or two texts from the list set in the specification
- Grammar

Paper 3: Speaking

Oral exam: 21-23 minutes (including 5 minutes preparation time) 30% of A Level

What's assessed:

- Individual research project
- One of four themes (Aspects of Hispanic society or Artistic culture in the Hispanic world or Multiculturalism in Hispanic Society or Aspects of political life in Hispanic Society).

Course Requirements

You will need at least a grade 6 to continue to AS/A2 level.

Who to see?

Mrs Paddick

Email: paddickn@busheymeads.org.uk

Cambridge Technical Level 3 Extended Certificate SPORT AND PE

Full specification is available at:

<http://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/258721-centre-handbook-certificates.pdf>



Key Features

- An opportunity for learners, through applied learning, to develop the core specialist knowledge, skills and understanding required in the sport and physical activity sector
- An opportunity for students to develop vocational skills to prepare them for work in the sports sector

Topics Covered

The overall qualification is sub-divided into 5 clear areas:

BODY SYSTEMS AND THE EFFECTS OF PHYSICAL ACTIVITY Mandatory Unit (Anatomy and physiology, Exercise physiology,)

(Assessed by a written theory paper)

SPORTS COACHING AND ACTIVITY LEADERSHIP Mandatory Unit

(Assessed by a series of internally assessed assignment tasks)

SPORTS ORGANISATION AND DEVELOPMENT Mandatory Unit

(Assessed by a written theory paper)

PRACTICAL SKILLS IN SPORT AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES Optional Unit

(Assessed by a series of internally assessed assignment tasks)

+ 1 other Optional Unit that suits the skills and strengths of the group (sports injury, sports psychology, sports sociology, performance analysis)

Course Requirements

A minimum of a C grade at GCSE PE or a Merit at BTEC L2 Sport or Cambridge National Sports studies/Sports Science is required. Those who have not followed a sports course as a Key Stage 4 option but have achieved 5 Grade Cs (or equivalent Grade 4 and above including Maths, English and Science) are welcome to apply. Students who have followed GCSE PE should have attained a C Grade in the **THEORETICAL ASPECT** of the course. A genuine interest in sport is essential.

Who to see?

Mr A Cartledge HEAD OF PE and HEALTH FACULTY

Email: cartledgea@bushey.meads.org.uk



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