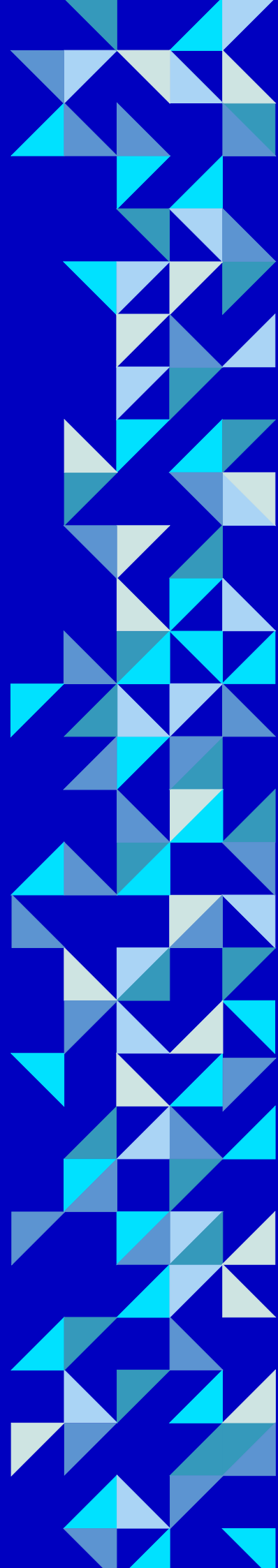


**Individual in Approach  
Exceptional in Outcome...**



**Courses 2023**





# R6 COURSES 2023

## Contents...

### Creative and Performing Arts...

Art (Fine Art)	4
Textile Design	4
Performing Arts	5
Drama	5
Graphic Communication	6
Design and Technology Product Design	7
Music	8
Photography	9
Food, Science and Nutrition	10

### Science...

Biology	11
Chemistry	12
BTEC L3 Extended Certificate in Applied Science	13
BTEC L3 National Diploma in Applied Science	14
Physics	15

### Maths and Computing...

Computer Science	16
IT Extended Certificate	17
Maths	18

## Modern Foreign Languages...

French, German and Spanish 19

## Humanities and Social Sciences...

Business 20

Economics 20

Applied General Business L3 21

Philosophy 22

Children's Play, Learning and Development 23

Geography 24

Politics 25

Sociology 26

Level 3 Applied Diploma in Tourism 27

History 28

Law 28

Psychology 29

## Physical Education...

Physical Education 30

BTEC L3 Extended Certificate in Sport 30

BTEC L3 Diploma in Sport 31

BTEC L3 Extended Diploma in Sport 31

## English...

English Literature 32

English Language and Literature 33

## Enrichment...

Extended Project 34

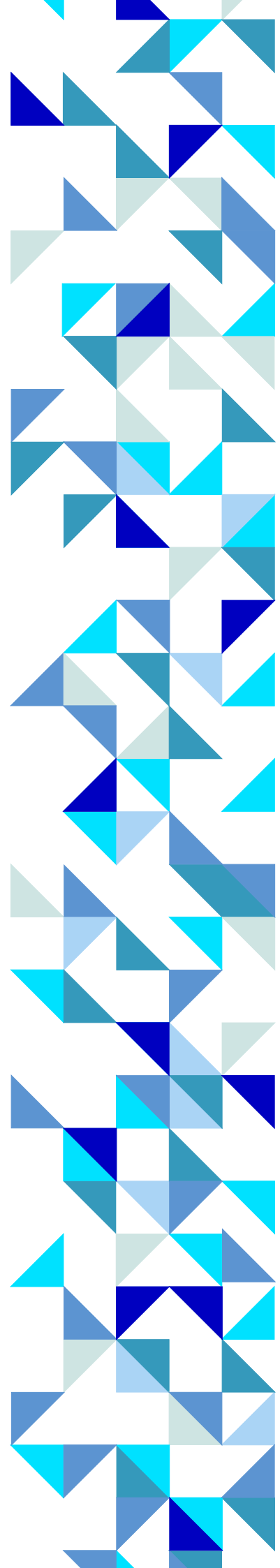
Art Leaders 34

Maths and English GCSE Upgrade 35

Well-Being 35

HSLA 36

Duke of Edinburgh 36



# Creative & Performing Arts

## Art (Fine Art)

Minimum grade required: Art GCSE 6  
Exam Board: AQA  
Course Leader: Mrs A Fair  
faira@ridgewayschool.com

### What will I be studying?

AQA Art A-level consists of one coursework unit and one examination unit. The A Level course builds on the experiences and course structure from GCSE.

The theme for year 12 is 'Identity'. You will re visit the formal elements of Art with a series of workshops. There are a number of new techniques and processes involved, such as etching and lino printing. You will also develop drawing, painting and 3D skills. you will study a variety of Artists and start to develop your own visual language. You will then start your course work project 'Personal Investigation' based on a theme of your choice. This will be your main project and will include an extended essay about your Art work.

The A level Exam Unit consists of a six-week preparation project followed by a three-day exam to complete a personal response .

### Where can it take me?

A Level Art and Design is highly regarded by Universities and Employers as it creates innovative, independent thinkers.

Possible career options:

Advertising, Animation, Architecture, Art History, Art therapy, Ceramic art, Costume design, Fashion and Jewellery design, Film and TV, Media, Fine Art, Furniture design, Games design, Graphic design, Illustration, Interior design, Landscape architecture, Lecturing, Makeup artist, Museum Curator, Photography, Photo Journalism, Product design, Teaching, Textiles and print design, Theatre Design, Social media and app design.

## Textile Design

Minimum grade required: GCSE 5 and above in Art or Textiles  
Exam Board: AQA  
Course Leader: Mrs P Lane  
lanep@ridgewayschool.com

### What will I be studying?

Textile Design is a creative A Level exploring a range of textile media, processes and techniques, both traditional and with a modern slant. Students are required to work in one or more area(s) such as fashion design, fashion textiles, costume design, printed and/or dyed fabric and materials, interior design, constructed textiles and art textiles.

### Where can it take me?

**Possible career options:** A Level Art Textile Design can lead to a range of careers including textiles designer, interior design, retail, fashion trade, costume designer and maker, working in television and theatre, teaching and museum work (conservation).

**Possible degree options:** Universities accept A Level Art Textile Design as a suitable qualification for students applying for Foundation Art and degree options including: Constructed textiles, Contemporary textiles, Costume design, Digital textiles, Fashion design, Fashion promotion/merchandising, Footwear design, Printed textiles, Sportswear design, Surface design, Textile design, Textile science and technology, Theatre design. A Level Art Textile Design is also acceptable as a qualification to support other non Art courses.

## BTEC L3 Extended Certificate in Performing Arts

Minimum grade required: No minimum grade, entry by interview

Exam Board: Pearson (Edexcel)

Course Leader: Mrs S Hodge

hodges@ridgewayschool.com

### What will I be studying?

“The thing about performance, even if it’s only an illusion, is that it is a celebration of the fact that we do contain within ourselves infinite possibilities.”

A BTEC in Performing Arts gives students the opportunity to acquire skills in three disciplines; dance, drama and music. This course is designed for students who wish to follow a career in any aspect of performance.

The course will provide opportunities for the students to be aware of and to develop personal qualities of leadership, responsibility, commitment and teamwork in a range of practical and academic situations. The BTEC course aims to build upon the foundations of the Music, Drama and Level 2 Performing Arts curriculum.

### Where can it take me?

This course provides an excellent grounding for those students who wish to go into careers such as Music Entertainment, Singing, Performance Support and Theatre. Students who wish to go on to study within Higher Education are able to gain identical UCAS points as with traditional A Level pathways and could go on to study degrees in Drama, Dance and Music.

## Drama

Minimum grade required: No minimum grade, entry by interview.

Exam Board: Pearson (Edexcel)

Course Leader: Mrs S Hodge

hodges@ridgewayschool.com

### What will I be studying?

#### A Level

##### Unit 1: Devising

This unit requires the creation of a unique and original piece of theatre from a stimulus provided by the school. This will be performed to an invited audience.

##### Unit 2: Theatre Text in Performance

Students are required to take part in a performance of a professionally published play and to perform a monologue or duologue. Both performances take place in front of an external examiner and an invited audience.

##### Unit 3 Theatre Text in Context

This is a written examination based on the exploration of two set texts and the review of a live piece of theatre. One text will be practically explored from the perspective of a performer and a designer. The second text will require students to come up with director’s concept for a contemporary audience in light of a practitioner.

### Where can it take me?

“Not everyone is going to be an actor, but nowadays everyone needs Drama skills in one form or another. This is the age of the presentation where products and ideas are sold in a competitive marketplace by the strength of the presenter and his/her powers of delivery. The scientist, the business executive, the engineer, the bank manager, the retail executive, the designer; none are exempt.” Jenni Whittaker, Chief Examiner.

## Graphic Communication

**Minimum grade required:** GCSE Grade 5 and above in Art, or Graphics or Product Design

**Exam Board:** AQA

**Course Leader:** Mrs M Nuevo

nuevom@ridgewayschool.com

### What will I be studying?

Unit 1 (Coursework Unit) - Worth 60% of final grade.

- Students will begin by learning the concepts and formal elements behind graphic design.
- Students will develop their analytical and visual literacy skills in being able to effectively research examples of the formal elements within current Graphical Designers work.
- Students will then apply this contextual research to their own practise, constantly developing their visual language through a range of workshops, including Photoshop, printmaking, drawing & digital painting.
- Students will have the opportunity to explore various areas of Graphical Design including logos and branding, packaging, concept advertisement and illustration.

Unit 2 (Coursework Unit) - Worth 40% of final grade.

- Students will receive an exam paper with a choice of different briefs.
- Students are to select a brief and create a mini project responding to their chosen brief. The students will work towards a final piece.
- This final piece will be created in a 15 hour exam, to be sat at the end of Y13 over 3 days.

### Where can it take me?

We are living in an increasingly visual world – from emojis & social media, to website and magazine layout design, graphic designers are leaving their creative fingerprints everywhere. Creativity is continuing to rank highly by employers in multiple areas of work. By specialising in Graphic Design, you will leave R6 with a portfolio of work that demonstrates this highly sought after skill.

Graphic Design is emerging as a highly important area of Art and Design, and it is highly adaptable to a wide range of different areas of employment, including:

Advertisement, Branding & Online Content Creator, Graphic Designer, Web Development, Illustration, Concept Artist, Animation, Marketing, Social Media Content Creator, Creative Director, Branding Design, Packing Design, Artistic Director, Interior Design, Editorial Design, Concept Artist, Movie and Film storyboard artist.

You will also have the opportunity to study areas of Art and Design in higher education, refining your creative skills even further!

## Design and Technology Product Design

Minimum grade required: 4 grade 5s 1 in Maths essential and DT preferable.

Students are also recommended to take a Maths qualification alongside Product Design

Course Leader: Mrs P Lane

lanep@ridgewayschool.com

### What will I be studying?

Throughout the course you will be studying a variety of subjects ranging from Product Analysis, Material properties, Marketing strategies and Industry processes. Each subject is taught through a range of smaller projects which allow the student to practice and perfect their creative design. The specialism materials that will be the focus of the course are plastics, wood and metal and throughout the course the students will become proficient in all.

Students will complete two exams at the end of Year 13 worth 20% and 30% and will complete a personal project worth 50% over Year 12 and Year 13.

### Where can it take me?

An A level in Product Design is accepted for courses at all universities and colleges of higher education.

Product Design is useful for a career as a product designer, graphic designer, interior designer, engineer, teacher and marketing. It is also useful for going into practical apprenticeships.

*Students will need to take a Maths qualification alongside the course.*



## A Level Music

Minimum grade required: No minimum grade, entry by interview and experience

Exam Board: AQA (A level)

Course Leader: Mrs R Jankinson

jankinsonr@ridgewayschool.com

### What will I be studying?

There are 3 units

#### 1. Appraising Music

Exam paper with listening and written questions using excerpts of music.

Section A: Listening

Section B: Analysis

Section C: Essay

**Worth 40%**

#### 2. Performance

Solo and/or ensemble performing as instrumentalist or vocalist

Perform 10 minutes of music

**Worth 35%**

#### Composition

No. 1: Composition to set brief

No. 2: Free composition

4 1/2 minutes in total

**Worth 25%**

There are 7 areas of study of which you must study 3:

Western Classical Tradition (Compulsory)

1. Pop Music (*Stevie Wonder, Muse, Beyonce, Daft Punk*)
2. Music for Media (*Music for film, TV and gaming*)
3. Music for Theatre (*Musicals*)
4. Jazz (*Louis Armstrong, Miles Davis, Charlie Parker*)
5. Contemporary Traditional Music (*World*)

## BTEC - EXTENDED CERTIFICATE IN MUSIC

6. Art music since 1910 (*Experimental and Contemporary Classical Music*)

Minimum grade required: No minimum grade, entry by interview and experience

Exam Board: Pearson (Edexcel)

Course Leader: Mrs R Jankinson

jankinsonr@ridgewayschool.com

### What will I be studying?

Units include:

1. Ensemble Performance
2. Professional practice in the music industry
3. Composing Music

The course is equivalent to A Level.

More suited for students with an interest in practical music making and technology. This course is flexible and can be adapted to fit student interest.

**\* Students are invited to discuss the course most appropriate to them.**

### Where can it take me?

Music is accepted for courses at universities and colleges of higher education. Music Colleges will require a high standard of performance on first instrument. Music will allow you to access careers in publishing, media, recording, arts administration, performing, music therapy and teaching.





# Photography

**Qualification:** A2 (Linear A Level)

**Exam Board:** AQA

**Entry Criteria:** Grade 5 in Art or an Art related Course or entry by interview and portfolio

**Course Leader:** Mrs M Nuevo  
nuevom@ridgewayschool.com

## What will I be studying?

Unit 1 (Coursework Unit) - Worth 60% of final grade.

- Students will be introduced to the basics of photography through a series of extensive workshops.
- Students will be responding to the work of current photographers, as well as understanding the history of photography and its impact on the world of Art & Design.
- Students will begin to understand the formal elements of Photography, and will carry out research that looks creatively at the ways Photographers have used theme elements within their work.
- Students will partake in workshops that will focus on digital photography, photograms, digital and physical photo manipulation.
- Students will be responding to a series of project themes within this time, to help them refine and hone their skills.

Unit 2 (Coursework Unit) - Worth 40% of final grade.

- Students will receive an exam paper with a choice of different starting points.
- Students are to select a starting point and create a mini project responding to their choice of theme. The students will create a body of preparatory work towards a final piece.

- This final piece will be created in a 15 hour exam, to be sat at the end of Y13 over 3 days.

## Where can it take me?

Studying Photography opens many doors in relation to further education, as well as the creative world. A-Level Photography will assist with students who want to go on to study a Foundation Degree in Art, Design & Media, as well as other creative University Courses. The subject applies to the following roles in the working world:

Advertisement, Online Content Creator, Web Development, Event Photographer, Marketing, Creative Director, Journalism, Freelance Photography, Wildlife Photography, Film & Media, Film.



## Food, Science and Nutrition

Minimum grade required: GCSE Grade 4 in English

Exam Board: WJEC

Course Leader: Mrs K Stamp

stampk@ridgewayschool.com

### What will I be studying?

There is no need to have taken this subject previously at GCSE. The Level 3 in Food Science and Nutrition, is a vocational qualification and is the equivalent to 1 A Level.

You will have the opportunity to learn about the relationship between the human body and food as well as practical skills about cooking and preparing food. There is a strong emphasis on practical work, making this an ideal choice for students who prefer learning through doing. The course offers you flexible choices in that you can specialise in individual areas of interest.

### What will I study and do?

You will achieve a Diploma in Food Science and Nutrition, studying a range of units to include:

- ☑ **Unit 1:** Planning to meet nutritional needs (mandatory)
- ☑ **Unit 2:** Developing practical food production skills
- ☑ **Unit 3:** Ensuring food is safe to eat (mandatory)
- ☑ **Unit 4:** Experimenting to solve food production problems
- ☑ **Unit 5:** Current issues in consumer food choice

### How is the course assessed?

Assessment is through a combination of projects and case studies, catering for different learning styles. The qualifications are assessed through Controlled Assessment, internal assessment and external moderation.

### Where can it take me?

Students who succeed in the vocational A level in Food Science & Nutrition could progress onto a professional apprenticeship, study at higher education or degree level.

You will be able to consider employment within the Food and Drink sectors of Hospitality and Catering, Food Production or Food Retail.

## Biology

**Minimum Grade Required:** GCSE grade 6 in Biology and another science or 6-6 in combined science, a grade 5 in English Language and grade 6 in Maths.

Exam Board: OCR

Course Leader: Miss M Tuck

tuckm@ridgewayschool.com

### What will I be studying?

Biology is a subject which is never out of the news. Just think of gene technology, global warming, endangered species, GM foods, transplants, B.S.E., cloning; the list is endless and is growing every day. Biology can 'stand alone' as a Science subject amongst more 'Art' orientated subjects and is complementary to Geography, Psychology, Sociology and Sports Science, as well as Chemistry, Physics and Maths.

There is a Biology field trip to Swanage and Studland Bay where you will be carrying out a full investigation which contributes to a certificate of practical skills.

In addition to the A level qualification we would expect all students to gain the 'Practical Endorsement in Biology'.

This will be embedded throughout the course building up a Lab book which will evidence the practical skills you have developed over two years of study. This will give an indication to universities of your competencies in the laboratory.

All practical skills will also be examined through the written papers.

### A Level

Module 1:

Development of practical skills in Biology

Module 2:

Foundations in Biology including Cell structure and Biological molecules

Module 3:

Exchange and Transport

Module 4:

Biodiversity, Evolution and Disease

Module 5:

Communication, homeostasis and energy

Module 6:

Genetics, evolution and ecosystems

### Where can it take me?

Biology provides an excellent basis for higher education courses from medicine to marine biology and physiotherapy to psychology. It will provide you with a wide range of useful skills which are transferable to any subject or field of work.

## Chemistry

### Minimum Grade Required:

GCSE Grade 6 in Chemistry and Another science or 6-6 in combined science and Grade 6 in Maths.

Exam Board: OCR - GCE Chemistry A

Course Leader: Miss C Gallagher

gallagherc@ridgewayschool.com

### Why A-Level Chemistry?

From baking a cake to recharging a mobile phone, chemistry is involved in everything we do; and our lives are inextricably influenced by many aspects of chemistry. Chemistry will continue to be at the forefront of responding the needs of society; with chemists central to making advances in designing new materials, efficient energy use, drug development, and technology, to name but a few.

A level Chemistry courses cover a wide variety of basic concepts such as the structure of the atom; the interaction of matter and energy; how to control reactions; patterns in the Periodic Table; understanding carbon-based molecules.

The OCR A Chemistry specification splits the content into 6 modules: (1) Development of practical skills in chemistry (2) foundations in chemistry (3) Periodic table and energy (4) Core organic chemistry (5) Physical chemistry and transition metals (6) Organic chemistry and analysis.

### What will I be studying?

**Year 12** — This will give you an insight into the contemporary world of Chemistry, covering aspects such as minerals, medicines, and polymers. Practical skills are integrated throughout the course.

**Year 13** - You will continue to learn about Chemistry in a modern society, covering aspects such as, analytical techniques, transition metals and organic synthesis. Emphasis throughout the course is on developing knowledge, competence and confidence in practical skills and problem solving.

### Possible Career options?

Studying A Level Chemistry supports other science subjects and can also complement a number of arts subjects.

Chemistry is essential for careers in medicine, pharmacology and veterinary science. It is recommended for nursing, physiotherapy, forensics, environmental or biological sciences.

Other career opportunities such as law, finance, engineering and teaching.

## BTEC L3 Extended Certificate in Applied Science

**Minimum Grade Required:** GCSE grade 5-5 in Combined Science or 2 grade 5s in separate science, grade 5 in English and grade 5 in Maths.

**Exam Board:** Pearson (Edexcel)

**Course Leader:** Miss R Allen  
allenr@ridgewayschool.com

The UK is currently regarded as a world leader in sectors including renewable energy, space, low carbon, pharmaceutical, utilities, automotive, agri-food and bioscience. **The BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Applied Science** is designed to train learners to fill associate or 'para' professional and skilled technician roles in a number of sectors, including: health care, oil, gas, electricity, chemicals, pharmaceuticals, and transport equipment. Learners develop the knowledge, understanding and skills required by the sector, including essential employability skills, and apply them in real work contexts.

### Course Information

The Pearson BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate in Applied Science is an Applied General qualification, equivalent in size to **one** A level.

The course covers a core of knowledge by studying areas in the field of:

- Fundamentals of science
- Scientific investigations
- Scientific practical techniques
- Applications into higher education and industrial techniques

It also provides extensive opportunity to study in more depth a range of different modules including:

- Principles and application of Science 1
- Practical Scientific Procedures and Techniques

- Science Investigative Skills
- Human Regulation and Reproduction

### Assessment

Assessment is specifically designed to fit the purpose and objective of the qualification. It includes a range of assessment types and styles suited to vocational qualifications in the sector. There are three main forms of assessment: external exam, internal coursework and synoptic practical work.

### Links with Industry

As the qualification is designed in close collaboration with industry and is supported by the Sector Skills Council (SSC) for the sector, Cogent. A range of professional organisations/employers in the sector have also confirmed their support the course and it is a highly-respected route for those who wish to move into employment in the sector, either directly or following further study.

### Higher Education

The Level 3 in Applied Science also provides a well-established route into a variety of specialist Higher Education (HE) courses in this sector and beyond. A number of Universities have confirmed that this this qualification in Applied Science fulfils their entry requirements when achieved alongside other qualifications.

## BTEC L3 National Diploma in Applied Science

**Minimum Grade Required:** GCSE grade 5-5 in Combined Science or 2 grade 5s in separate science, grade 5 in English and grade 5 in Maths.

**Exam Board:** Pearson (Edexcel)

**Course Leader:** Miss R Allen  
allenr@ridgewayschool.com

The UK is currently regarded as a world leader in sectors including renewable energy, space, low carbon, pharmaceutical, utilities, automotive, agri-food and bioscience. **The BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Applied Science** is designed to train learners to fill associate or 'para' professional and skilled technician roles in a number of sectors, including: health care, oil, gas, electricity, chemicals, pharmaceuticals, and transport equipment. Learners develop the knowledge, understanding and skills required by the sector, including essential employability skills, and apply them in real work contexts.

### Course Information

The Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Applied Science is an Applied General qualification, equivalent in size to **two** A levels.

The course covers a core of knowledge by studying areas in the field of:

- Fundamentals of science
- Scientific investigations
- Scientific practical techniques
- Applications into higher education and industrial techniques

It also provides extensive opportunity to study in more depth a range of different modules including:

- Principles and application of Science 1
- Practical Scientific Procedures and Techniques

- Science Investigative Skills
- Laboratory Techniques and their application
- Principles and application of Science 2
- Investigative project
- Physiology of Human Body Systems
- Human Regulation and Reproduction

### Assessment

Assessment is specifically designed to fit the purpose and objective of the qualification. It includes a range of assessment types and styles suited to vocational qualifications in the sector. There are three main forms of assessment: external exam, internal coursework and synoptic practical work.

### Links with Industry

As the qualification is designed in close collaboration with industry and is supported by the Sector Skills Council (SSC) for the sector, Cogent. A range of professional organisations/employers in the sector have also confirmed their support the course and it is a highly-respected route for those who wish to move into employment in the sector, either directly or following further study.

### Higher Education

The Level 3 in Applied Science also provides a well-established route into a variety of specialist Higher Education (HE) courses in this sector and beyond. A number of Universities have confirmed that this this qualification in Applied Science fulfils their entry requirements when achieved with other qualifications.

## Physics

**Minimum Grade Required:** GCSE grade 6 in Physics and another science or 6-6 in combined science and grade 6 in Maths. Students must also study A-Level Maths along side.

Exam Board: OCR

Course Leader: Mr P Kench

kenchp@ridgewayschool.com

### Is Physics for you?

Do you want to investigate the limits of space, the beginning of time and everything in between?

How about understanding how the technology around you works? Want to save the planet or maybe just help people get better when they are ill? Or maybe you don't care about any of this and just want to earn lots of money?

Well it doesn't really matter. Whatever you do the knowledge and skills you gain by studying physics will be useful. Physics is more than a subject - it trains your brain to think beyond boundaries.

### What will I be studying?

Physics is exciting! Think of the number of applications that depend on a knowledge of physical principles for their development; space flight, telecommunications, internet, the LHC at CERN, theme parks, the list is endless. We'd all be a bit lost without physics. All the gadgets that we take for granted like mobile phones and laptops wouldn't exist. Physicists are constantly making new discoveries that directly impact our everyday life.

### Year 12

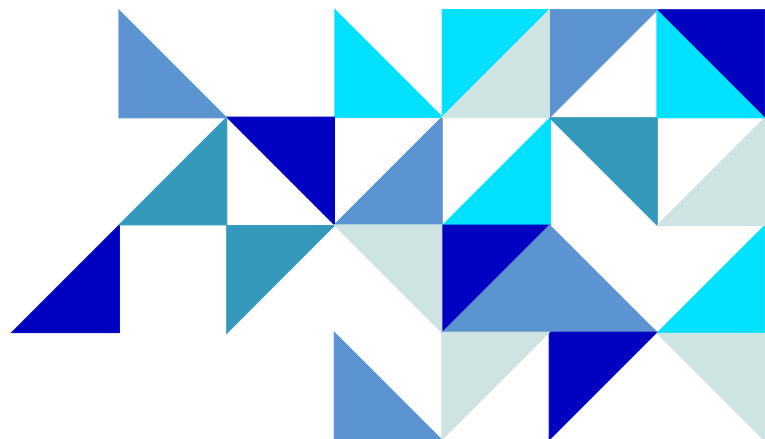
Year 12 Physics combines theory with a great deal of practical work, enabling you to apply your knowledge to our modern technological society.

### Year 13

In Year 13 you will start to see how the ideas that you learnt at GCSE work together and begin to grasp the universal principles that apply to everything from smallest particles to the largest galaxies.

### Where can it take me?

Physics is complementary to most other subjects, especially Maths, Biology, Chemistry, Technology, Geography, ICT, Economics, Art and Graphics. Knowledge of Physics and skills associated with it are much in demand in many careers, such as Engineering industry-related careers, Medicine, Veterinary Science, Management and Analysis in Business and Finance, as well as in Education and Scientific research.



## A Level Computer Science

Minimum grade required: GCSE Grade 5 in Maths (students will be considered if they have a GCSE in Computer Science at Grade 4)

Exam Board: OCR

Course Leader: Mr C Adams

adamsc@ridgewayschool.com

### What will I be studying?

The new qualifications will be focused on programming and emphasise the importance of computational thinking as a discipline. It will inspire and challenge students to apply the knowledge they gain with the creative and technical skills they acquire.

The Units

#### . 01 Computing Systems (40%):

- . The characteristics of contemporary processors, input, output and storage devices.
- . Software and software development
- . Programming
- . Exchanging data
- . Data types, data structures and algorithms
- . Legal, moral, ethical and cultural issues.

#### . 02 Algorithms and Programming (40%):

- . There'll be a short scenario/task contained in the paper, which could be an algorithm or a text page-based task, which will involve problem solving. Other areas include:
- . Elements of computational thinking
- . Problem solving and programming
- . Algorithms.

#### . 03 Programming Project (20%)

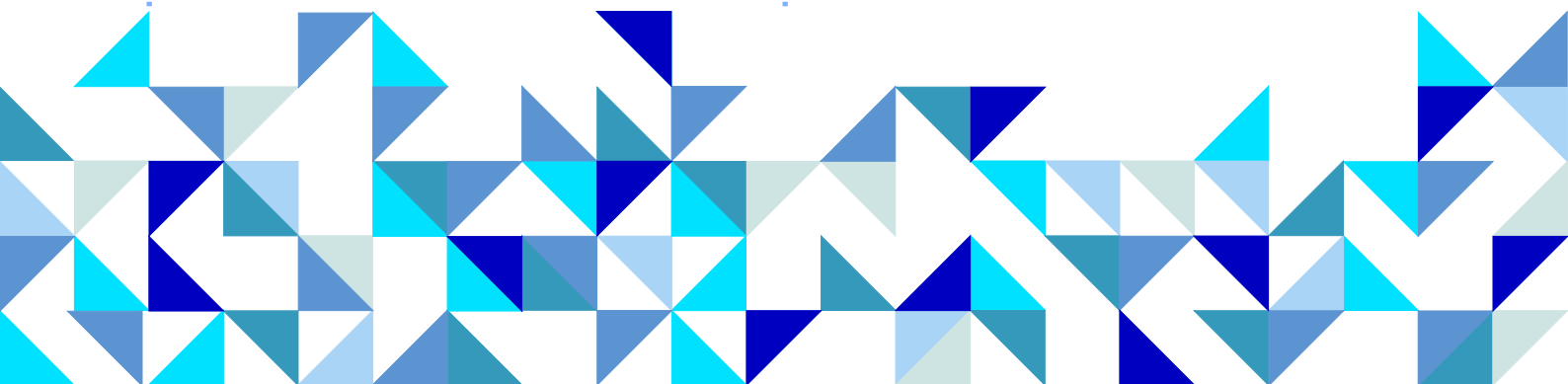
- . Students select their own user-driven problem and have to develop their own solution in a programming language of their choice

### Where can it take me?

Alongside being an excellent A Level for students interested learning more about problem solving, programming and concepts around computer science.

It is especially good preparation for students looking to:

- . Study in a computer science based subject beyond A Level.
- . Move into an apprenticeship in a computer science based industry, such as Cyber Security.
- . Pursue a career that needs the ability to efficiently solve problems.





## IT Extended Certificate

Minimum grade: If you meet the Sixth Form entry requirements we welcome you on this course

Exam Board: Pearson (Edexcel)

Course Leader: Mr C Adams

adams@ridgewayschool.com

### What will I be studying?

The BTEC Extended Certificate is designed to provide a specialist work-related qualification in Information Technology. This is a two year course that cannot be dropped at the end of Year 12. You will be assessed throughout the course in assignments, tasks and a written exam.

### Year 12

Unit 1: Information Technology Systems

Unit 2: Creating Systems to Manage Information

### Year 13

Unit 3: **Using** Social Media in Business

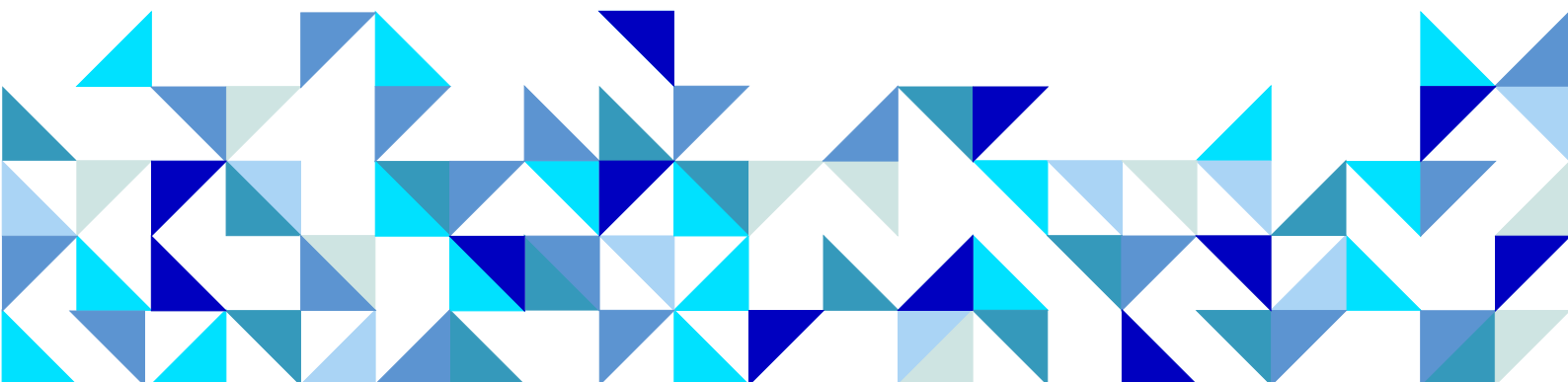
Unit 6: Website Development

### Where can it take me?

The IT BTEC Extended Certificate gives you the knowledge, understanding and skills that are needed to prepare you for employment in an IT or Business related career

This course can also be used for access to higher education.

This is a Level 3 qualification, equivalent to one A level.



# Maths and Computing

## Mathematics

Minimum grade required: GCSE Grade 6

Exam Board: OCR (MEI)

Course Leader: Mrs C Horton

hortonc@ridgewayschool.com

### What will I be studying?

A-level Mathematics is a course designed to build on topics covered at GCSE such as algebra, co-ordinate geometry, trigonometry and probability. New topics introduced in the course include: sequences and series, calculus, Newton's laws of motion and statistical hypothesis testing.

The content is structured as below.

Pure: 50%

Statistics: 25%

Mechanics: 25%

### Where can it take me?

The course is designed to support the mathematical techniques and knowledge needed for many other subjects including Physics, Engineering, Chemistry, Biology, Economics and Psychology.

## Core Mathematics

This is a one year level 3 certificate with the same UCAS points as an AS.

It is a requirement for all students studying Biology or Chemistry who have not chosen A Level Maths. It will also support students who are studying subjects with a significant mathematical or statistical content such as Geography, Economics, Business Studies BTEC Science and Psychology

Minimum grade required: GCSE Grade 4

Exam Board: AQA Mathematical Studies (Option 2a)

Subject Leader: Mrs C Horton

hortonc@ridgewayschool.com

### What will I be studying?

Core Maths builds on the mathematical skills studied at GCSE but with a focus on using and applying maths to solve problems drawn from other subjects, work and real life. This includes looking at Income Tax, National Insurance, Student loans and mortgages as well as the statistical techniques used in other subject areas.

### Where can it take me?

Employers from all sectors recognise the need for high levels of budget management, interpretation of statistical measures and problem-solving skills. Core Maths is recognised by Universities as a supporting subject for courses that have mathematical content such as Medicine, Sciences, Psychology and Nursing.

## Further Mathematics

Minimum Grade Required: GCSE grade 7

Exam Board: OCR (MEI)

Subject Leader: Mrs C Horton

hortonc@ridgewayschool.com

### What will I be studying?

Further Mathematics provides a great opportunity for enthusiastic mathematicians to broaden and deepen their subject knowledge. The additional content will include matrices, complex numbers, further calculus and algebraic techniques as well as extending your understanding of statistics and mechanics and introducing a new branch of mathematics, decision maths. The content you study will vary depending on whether you study the further maths course for both years as follows

The AS course is equally weighted in three topics: Pure, Statistics and Modelling with Algorithms

In the A2 course we will continue to learn more Pure content and will introduce Mechanics as a fourth module. The courses in the second year are weighted as follows.

Pure: 1/6

Stats: 1/6

Modelling with algorithms: 1/6

Mechanics: 1/6

### Where can it take me?

The course is designed to appeal to those who are very able at and enjoy maths and those who are considering a mathematics, engineering or computing related degree.

# Modern Foreign Languages

## French, German and Spanish

Minimum Grade Required: GCSE Grade 6 in the chosen language

Exam Board: AQA

Course Leaders:

Mr J Robertson (German)

robertsonj@ridgewayschool.com

Mrs A Melo (Spanish)

melo@ridgewayschool.com

Mr J Robertson (French)

robertsonj@ridgewayschool.com

### What will I be studying?

Studying a language in Year 12 and 13 is very rewarding. It will challenge your thinking and your views on the world as well as encouraging you to develop opinions about contentious issues, and have discussions about films, literature and other cultural issues. A level French/German/Spanish is ideal for those who like debating, presenting and researching or for those who would simply like to learn more about how another country functions. You will study aspects of society, culture and the arts, multiculturalism and politics as well as many contentious issues pertinent to the language studied. All four skills areas of listening, speaking, reading & writing will be assessed and you will be required to conduct an individual research topic based around an area that interests you.

### A level skills – themes

The skills foci are:

- Response to spoken text in writing, showing understanding of the main points, gist and detail.
- Response to written text in writing and speaking, showing understanding of the main points, gist and detail.
- Summary of a written text in speaking (Theme 1).
- Summary of a spoken text in writing.
- Translation into and from French, German or Spanish.

- Discussion on a theme showing knowledge and understanding of the target-language context and culture.
- Expressing viewpoints and justifying opinions.
- Developing an argument and reaching a logical conclusion.
- In addition, students need to be able to analyse aspects of culture and present their independent research project in the speaking examination.

### A level skills – literature / film

In the study of the literary text / film, students will also need to develop the skills of:

- Critically analysing the work.
- Evaluating the form or techniques used in the work.
- Presenting and justifying viewpoints.
- Developing logical arguments to persuade.
- Relating the work to key concepts, issues and the social context.
- Writing a critical response.

Typically you will have two teachers and designated time with a French, German or Spanish assistant. Most schools don't have language assistants, so we are really very lucky at Ridgeway.

### Where can it take me?

Employers value linguists, and not just because they can speak more than one language. They tend to be articulate, quick thinking and adaptable people.

A Level French, German and Spanish is accepted for all courses at university. All occupations benefit from a language, but in particular: Accountants, Business Managers, any career in business, Teachers, Bi-lingual Secretaries, Travel Agents, International Lawyers and all careers in industry, including Engineering. Language graduates in the UK have the highest employment rate of any discipline (other than medicine and law).

# Humanities and Social Sciences

## A Level Business

Minimum Grade Required: GCSE grade 6 in Business (if studied) with at least a 5 in English and Maths

Exam Board: AQA

Course Leader: Mr J Edwards  
edwardsj@ridgewayschool.com

### What will I be studying?

The course provides an excellent insight into how businesses perform and are managed. Students understand how businesses market their products or services, the logistics of getting products to market, how businesses are financed and the human resources required to make a business a success. Students investigate and research real world examples looking at both small local businesses and large multinational businesses developing their skills to analyse and interpret data. They must make substantiated conclusions and recommendations on the actions a business should take in the future. The exams require students to make recommendations for businesses which are included in case studies in the exam and to justify the reasons for their opinion.

### Where can it take me?

Business students often continue the subject at university and have found employment in insurance, financial services, retailing and management.

### How am I assessed?

The assessment is 3 exam papers each 2 hours in length examined at the end of the second year of study. There is a mixture of multiple choice questions as well as longer essay style questions.

## A Level Economics

Minimum grade required: GCSE grade 6 in Economics (if studied) with at least a 5 in English and Maths

Exam Board: AQA

Subject Leader: Mr J Edwards  
edwardsj@ridgewayschool.com

### What will I be studying?

Economics has never been so prevalent since the global economic recession of 2008 where unemployment grew, and interest rates reached the lowest ever recorded and more recently with Brexit. In the study of Economics the course looks at both macroeconomics how a whole economy interacts, and microeconomics how the forces of supply and demand govern a market. Within the course there is a focus on applying the knowledge gained to real world contexts to understand the events happening around us and analysing and evaluating the effects of policy changes on a range of economic indicators. Students must also use previous economic history to help formulate and develop arguments for future policy making.

### Where can it take me?

Economics A Level develops key skills of analysis and evaluation that are highly sought by universities and employers. Statistically, economics graduates are among some of the highest paid workers in the UK in many sectors including investment banking, insurance and marketing.

### How am I assessed?

The assessment is 3 exam papers each 2 hours in length examined at the end of the second year of study. Paper 1 is focused on the microeconomics, paper 2 on the macroeconomics and paper 3 on a case study involving both sides of the course. There is a mixture of multiple choice questions as well as longer essay style questions. Which will require data interpretation and use of real world examples.

## Applied General Business Level 3

Minimum Grade Required: GCSE grade 5 in Business (if studied) with at least a 5 in English and Maths

Exam Board: AQA

Course Leader: Mr J Edwards

edwardsj@ridgewayschool.com

### What will I be studying?

Topics include:

- the role of finance in planning an enterprise, analysing and making financial decisions
- how organisations use human, physical and financial resources to achieve goals
- enterprising behaviour and how it encourages entrepreneurial opportunities.
- how managers organise, motivate and lead employees through change to achieve business objectives
- skills and processes required to develop, present and evaluate a business proposal
- skills and processes required to develop an e-business proposal for a new business
- the planning, coordination and management of a one-off event to support a business proposal
- the development of a marketing communications mix for a business proposal and a schedule of marketing communications.

### Where can it take me?

This qualification provides a broad understanding of business and entrepreneurship knowledge and skills to support progress to higher education or apprenticeships and provides an excellent preparation for future employment.

### How am I assessed?

In year 12 there is one piece of coursework , one externally assessed controlled assessment and one exam of 1hour 30 minutes.

In year 13 there are two pieces of coursework and one exam of 1 hour 30 minutes.



## Philosophy

**Minimum Grade Required: GCSE grade 5 in English and a grade 6 in RE if the subject was studied**

Exam Board: AQA

Course Leader: Mrs H Clapton

claptonh@ridgewayschool.com

Course Teachers: Mrs H Clapton and Miss J Witchell

### Why take Philosophy?

You may love precision; you may love opening up of the mind to see in a different way; you may love constructive arguing; you may love refusing to accept things just because someone tells you/on authority/just because others do. Any of these can be your entry point into the subject.

The Study of Philosophy compliments the study of other A Level subjects including Psychology, Sociology, Politics, History, and Law. It also provides you with a depth of knowledge and skills that opens up a number of career opportunities.

You will get a thorough grounding in the key concepts and methods of philosophy. Students will have the opportunity to engage with big questions in a purely secular context.

You will develop important skills that you need for progression to higher education. You will learn to be clear and precise in your thinking and writing. You will engage with complex texts, analysing and evaluating the arguments of others and constructing and defending your own arguments.

### What will I study?

Philosophy consists of four different elements; Epistemology; Moral philosophy; Metaphysics of God; Metaphysics of mind. In these topics, you will:

- understand the main philosophical arguments within topics, through the works of philosophers, and articulate those arguments in appropriate forms, correctly, clearly and precisely
- understand the philosophical claims which are made within each topic and be able to articulate those claims correctly, clearly and precisely.
- understand the similarities and differences between the forms of reasoning used in different philosophical content areas, including the similarities and differences between different kinds of knowledge generate responses using appropriate philosophical formats, to a range of philosophical questions. These responses must include: articulating definitions; articulating arguments and counter-arguments; and selecting, applying and evaluating appropriate material to generate their own arguments.

The A Level examination consists of two 3 hours exams weighted at 50:50.

### Where can it take me?

The Philosophy A level opens opportunities for you to study this subject at a higher level, usually degree. Some of our students have used this A level to gain access to courses such as Religious Studies, Philosophy, Travel and tourism, Health and Social care, Childcare, Teaching, Uniformed Public Services and Legal studies. It opens up careers in Law, Politics, Social Work, Education or Police.

## BTEC L3 Extended Certificate in Children's Play, Learning & Development

Minimum grade required: GCSE Grade 4 in English

Exam Board: Pearson (Edexcel)

Course Leader: Mrs K Gray

grayk@ridgewayschool.com

### What will I be studying?

The course will provide an excellent insight into children's developmental progress from birth up to seven years 11 months. You will learn about theories and models of development that explain how and why children develop and how this relates to the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). You will develop an understanding of a range of factors that may influence children's development, and consider the short and long term effects on their development. You will also learn the sequence of children's speech, communication, language, literacy and numeracy skills development. You will build knowledge on the types of play and the opportunities that should be made available to children at different ages and stages of development.

You will study 3 mandatory units over two years.

These are:

- Children's Development
- Development of Children's Communication, Literacy and Numeracy Skills
- Play and Learning

You also have to study ONE of the optional units which could include:

- Keeping Children Safe
- Children's Physical Development
- Working with Parents and Others in Early Years
- The Early Years Foundation Stage

You have to complete a minimum of 50 hours work experience in a child care setting working with children aged 0-7 years. It is recommended that you complete these hours in Year 12. *You do not have to complete a portfolio for this.*

### Where can it take me?

The qualification carries UCAS points and is recognised by higher education providers as contributing to meeting admission requirements to many relevant courses. It could lead to a:

BSc (Hons) in Paediatric Nursing

BA (Hons) in Childhood Studies

BA (Hons) in Primary Education

Early Years Educator Apprenticeship

You could pursue a career in Primary or Secondary teaching, Nursery Nurse, Nursing and Midwifery, Childminding, Language Therapist, Social Work, Educational Psychologist etc.



# Humanities and Social Sciences

## Geography

Minimum Grade Required: GCSE grade 6 in Geography if studied and Grade 5 in English

Exam Board: AQA

Course Leader: Miss Alex Curtis-Slater

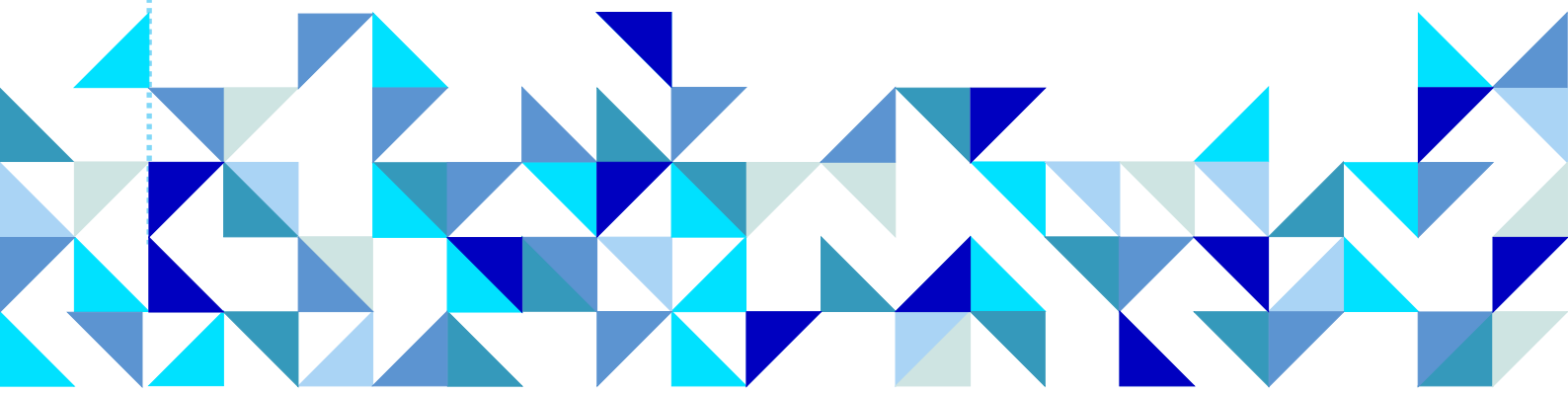
slatera@ridgewayschool.com

### What will I be studying?

- **Component 1: Physical geography (studies contribute to 2h30 Exam, worth 40% of A Level)**
  - Section A: Water and carbon cycles (12% of A Level)
  - Section B: Coastal systems (12% of A Level)
  - Section C: Hazards (16% of A Level)
- **Component 2: Human geography (studies contribute to 2h30 Exam, worth 40% of A Level)**
  - Section A: Global systems and global governance (12% of A Level)
  - Section B: Changing places (12% of A Level)
  - Section C: Contemporary urban environments (16% of A Level)
- **Geography fieldwork investigation** (20% of A Level): This will include a three day field trip to develop knowledge of sampling methods and fieldwork skills, which will then assist students in completing an independent project about a geographical concept of their choice.
- **Geographical skills:** Basic, investigative, ICT, graphical, cartographical and statistical to assist with all exam papers and the independent investigation.

### Where can it take me?

Successful A Level Geography students are amongst the most employable people as they develop a variety of skills that apply to a wide range of jobs. The Course combines a knowledge of science and an understanding of the arts, encouraging students to challenge perceptions and think synoptically about our dynamic world. Students have to manage their own geographical investigation about a topic of their choice; this enhances independent thinking and research skills in a similar way to a university dissertation or a project in the workplace.





# Humanities and Social Sciences

## Politics

Minimum grade required: GCSE grade 5 in English and a Grade 5 in History if the subject was studied.

Exam Board: Pearson (Edexcel)

Course lead: Miss H Buttery  
butteryh@ridgewayschool.com



### What will I be studying?

#### Year 12

##### Unit 1

**People and Politics:** Democracy and rights in the UK, Elections, Political Parties, Voting behaviour and the role of the Media

**Political Ideas:** Liberalism, Conservatism, Socialism

##### Unit 2

**Governing the UK:** The UK Constitution, Law in the UK, Parliament, the role of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

**Political Ideas:** Nationalism

#### Year 13

##### Unit 3

**Global Politics:** Human rights, Poverty, Global Governance, the United Nations and Regional groups, the Environment, Conflict, International law & the impact of globalisation

### Where can it take me?

Politics is a Social Science and is useful for many courses at university including Law, Economics, History, Sociology, Politics, English, Philosophy, Journalism and International Relations. Politics is useful for apprenticeships and careers in law, business, local government, the civil service, journalism, media, charity, international organisations and others.

### Who should study Politics?

Politics works particularly well with History, Economics, Sociology, Philosophy, Law, Geography and Maths. However, students who are interested in current affairs and have an interest in the world, society and people will do well. Students should have an interest in developing ideas and opinions about the issues affecting our lives.

What is the point of the United Nations when there is so much conflict?

What are the arguments preventing votes at 16?

Do you like to ask questions and discuss ideas

Do you like to ask why and how things change?

Are the UK media too powerful?

How am I assessed?

3 Exams each worth 84 marks (33%)

**Unit 1:** 2 hour exam: an essay, a source question, an ideas essay question

**Unit 2:** 2 hour exam: an essay, a source analysis question, an ideas essay question

**Unit 3:** 2 hour exam: two short analysis questions, two essay questions

# Humanities and Social Sciences

## Sociology

Minimum grade required: GCSE Grade 5 or above in English Language. Humanities and Social Science based GCSEs are desirable.

Exam Board: AQA

Course Leader: Mr M Halsall  
halsallm@ridgewayschool.com

### What will I be studying?

Sociology is the study of society and the social groups within it. It is a fascinating and illuminating Course that will give you a critical insight and understanding of the changing society in which we live, and how its structures impact on our individual behaviours, attitudes and opportunities. It will equip you with the ability to critically question and understand the world around you as well as developing a strong awareness of the different factors and influences that shape human behaviour.

Sociology provides a very broad and diverse range of topics in its study. It looks at the components of society in great depth and as such develops an informed understanding of the world we live in.

### A Level Sociology Assessment Overview:

**Paper 1:** Education with Theory and Methods (2 hour exam)

**Paper 2:** Topics in Sociology: Families and Households + Beliefs in Society (2 hour exam)

**Paper 3:** Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods (2 hour exam)

Sociology asks searching questions about our world and tries to explain the way it is. Sociologists attempt to answer questions like:

- 'What shapes our identity?'
- 'How can some crime be seen as beneficial to society?'
- 'Who has power in society?'
- 'How does social class affect your life chances?'
- 'How influential is the media?'
- 'What beliefs underpin and shape our worldviews?'
- 'Why do people obey, or break, rules?'
- 'To what extent does society control us?'
- 'Do we have free will to act as we choose?'
- 'Why is there inequality in society?'
- 'Is identity fixed or does it change over time?'
- How can science, religion or ideology shape our understanding of the world?
- Why are some people more likely to be criminal than others?

### Where can it take me?

It combines well with many other subjects, especially Psychology, Politics, History, Philosophy and Ethics, Health and Social Care and Geography. Sociology is useful for a variety of careers e.g. Social Work, Journalism, Police Work, Criminology, Law, Marketing, Business and Personnel, Nursing and Teaching – basically any career that involves an understanding of people, society and how we behave.



## Level 3 Applied Diploma in Tourism

Minimum grade required: GCSE Grade 4 or above in English

Exam Board: WJEC

Course Leader: Miss Alex Curtis-Slater  
slatera@ridgewayschool.com

In Tourism students will learn about the importance of tourism for the UK and the world's economy and consider how travel is changing, including more recent global destinations. They will investigate the importance of good customer service and demonstrate how it can be provided. Students will plan an event, conference or exhibition and evaluate their own performance and success.

### Course structure

**Unit 1: The United Kingdom Tourism Product** - Exam 1hr 30min

The UK is one of the world's most popular tourist destinations. This module considers why so many people are attracted to the UK and the impact it has on our economy.

**Unit 2: Worldwide tourism destinations** - Written report (9 hours in controlled conditions)

Reasons why people travel all over the world along with the features and appeal of global destinations. Marketing strategies used to encourage people to travel.

**Unit 3: The Dynamic Tourism Industry** - Exam 1h 30

This module considers how external events can impact the tourist industry. How does a hurricane impact an area? How does terrorism affect tourist destinations?

**Unit 4: Events and Itinerary Planning** - Written report (9 hours in controlled conditions)

What makes a successful tourism event? This module considers what is involved in planning and delivering events to meet customer needs.

Plan and organise a tourism event as well as presenting a suggestion for a UK tour.

### Where can it take me?

This Level 3 diploma course provides preparation for a range of university courses and occupations based around business, management and tourism. There are many opportunities to develop and enhance employability skills, including report writing and verbal communication. Students have to use problem-solving skills, consider creative solutions and use systems and technology to present their work. It enhances students' ability to research and think independently, as well as work and evaluate their performance within a team.



# Humanities and Social Sciences

## History

Minimum Grade Required: GCSE Grade 6 in History if studied and Grade 5 in English  
Exam Board: Pearson (Edexcel)  
Course Leader : Mr Jon Bister  
bisterj@ridgewayschool.com

### What will I be studying?

Unit 1: Britain: Conflict, Revolution and Settlement 1625-1701

Unit 2: Russia in Revolution 1894-1924

Unit 3: Ireland and the Union, c1774-1923

Unit 4: Coursework

This can be any area of history you want to choose, as long as historians have disagreed about it.  
E.g. Was it right to drop the Atomic Bomb.

### Where can it take me?

History is highly rated by all universities and provides the right skills needed for many degrees such as Law, History, Geography, RE, Psychology and Social Sciences, English and even Medicine! Studying History is the ideal training for careers in Law, Politics, Journalism, Business, Accountancy, Medicine, the Media (TV, film), Academia (Historians, Librarians, Teachers), Leisure and Tourism industries.



## Law

Minimum grade required: GCSE grade 5 in English and grade 4 in Maths  
Exam Board: AQA  
Course Leader: Mr A Northcott  
northcotta@ridgewayschool.com

### What will I be studying?

Candidates will be studying the law from its creation to its application. They will gain an understanding of how laws are created and the influences on this as well as the people and professionals involved in its application. From this they will move to the application of laws relating to Assault, Battery, ABH and GBH, gaining problem solving and analytical skills along the way. This will be supplemented by the study of civil law and the Tort of Negligence, covering when a duty of care is owed and how this duty may be breached.

In the second year, the students will further their criminal law knowledge by exploring Murder and Manslaughter whilst also looking further at Negligence to understand claims for psychiatric damage and the vicarious liability of employers. Finally, gain an understanding of the rules surrounding contracts. This will cover formation, breach and discharge of contracts giving students knowledge they can use in their day to day life.

**Year 1:** The English Legal System, Criminal Law and Tort.

**Year 2:** The English Legal System, Contract/Human Rights Law.

### Where can it take me?

Study at A Level provides a useful background for the further study of law as a main subject or subsidiary part of a degree. It also provides excellent preparation for the world of business, the emergency services, local government agencies and non-government agencies. Law is also beneficial for developing problem solving, analytical, writing and communication skills that are greatly beneficial in many areas.

# Humanities and Social Sciences

## Psychology

Minimum grade required: GCSE grades 5 English, 5 Science and 5 Maths.

Exam Board: AQA 'A'

Assessment: 100% Exam

Course Leaders: Mr M Halsall

halsallm@ridgewayschool.com

### What will I be studying?

Psychology is the science of human nature and experience. It involves the study of the mind and behaviour, and it appeals to the sort of enquiring mind that would like to examine possible answers to the following sorts of questions:

- 'Why do people obey orders, even if in some cases it means committing murder?'
- 'Why do we find some people more attractive than others?'
- 'What causes our love of celebrity culture?'
- 'Why do people develop phobias of certain objects/situations and where do these come from?'
- 'Does chocolate really make us happy?'

In Psychology, experiments are carried out to find out the causes of human behaviour. During a typical psychology class, you will be given a theory, examine the evidence which supports or contradicts the theory, and then evaluate both to come to a conclusion. Often you will have the opportunity to take part in an experiment yourself! This will help you address one of the key debates within psychology; 'Is psychology a science?'

### Where can it take me?

It combines well with all other subjects, in particular Sociology, Biology, PE & Sports Studies and Health & Social Care. The A Level is useful for specific careers in psychology e.g. sports psychology, educational psychology, but it is also useful and relevant for a range of others including personnel management, social work, marketing, advertising and teaching. It is an insightful qualification for any career involving working with people.



# A-Level Physical Education

Minimum grade required: 4 x 5-9 Grades with at least a 6 Grade in GCSE PE and/or Science  
A previous PE/Sport qualification is not essential but an interest in sport/physical education is.

Exam Board: OCR  
Course Leader: Mrs R Hill  
hillr@ridgewayschool.com

## What will I be studying?

The A Level will include 3 distinct theory areas (70%):

### Applied Anatomy and Physiology (30%)

Biomechanical movement  
Exercise Physiology

### Sport Psychology (20%)

Skill Acquisition  
Theories of learning

### Sport and Cultural factors (20%)

Historical aspects of Sport

Students will also be assessed in **one practical** activity as either a player/performer or coach. As part of the practical element there is also an oral presentation on the activity of your choice—EAPI (30%).

## Where can it take me?

Physical Education is recognised by all universities as a suitable qualification for many degree courses due to the scientific and practical elements of the course.

- Sports Science
- Sports Injury
- Physiotherapy
- Teaching
- Coaching
- Leisure Industry / Marketing

## What subject options could I take with PE?

A-Level Biology, Physics, Psychology, Sociology and /or Maths compliment really well alongside A-Level PE other combinations are also suitable.

# BTEC L3 Extended Certificate in Sport

## Equivalent to 1 A-Level

Minimum grade required: 4 x 5-9 Grades at GCSE and if studied Merit in Cambridge National Sports Studies/BTEC Sport.

A previous PE/Sport qualification is not essential but an interest in sport/physical education is.

Exam Board: Pearson  
Course Leader: Mrs R Hill  
hillr@ridgewayschool.com

## What will I be studying?

- Anatomy and physiology of sport (examination)
- Fitness training and programming examination
- Sport event organisation

And one other from:

- Sports Leadership
- Application of fitness testing
- Practical sports performance

Students will be assessed through a number of practical based activities and theoretical assignments, and two external exams taken in the first year of the course.

## Where can it take me?

The BTEC Extended Certificate in Sport (Level 3) allows learners to gain a nationally recognised vocational qualification. The course enables the learners to improve their understanding of their sport and strive for performance excellence. It is also a way to investigate the sports industry through health, fitness and sports coaching. It is designed to support progression to higher education when taken as part of programme of study that includes other appropriate qualifications.

## What subject options could I take with Sport?

Applied Business Studies and BTEC Science will compliment the BTEC Extended Certificate in Sport, well other combinations are also suitable.

# Physical Education

## BTEC L3 Diploma in Sport

### Equivalent to 2 A-Levels

Minimum grade required: 4 x 5-9 Grades at GCSE and if studied Merit in Cambridge National Sports Studies/BTEC Sport

A previous PE/Sport qualification is not essential but an interest in sport/physical education is.

Exam Board: Pearson

Course Leader: Mr M McMeeking

mcmeekingm@ridgewayschool.com

### What will I be studying?

- Anatomy and physiology of sport (examination)
- Fitness training and programming examination)
- Investigating business in the sport industry examination)
- Sport event organisation
- Professional development in the sports industry
- Application of fitness testing
- Rule, regulations and officiating in sport
- Sports leadership
- Skill acquisition in sport

Students will be assessed through a number of practical based activities and theoretical assignments, and three external exams taken in the first year of the course.

### Where can it take me?

The BTEC National Diploma in Sport (Level 3) allows learners to gain a nationally recognised vocational qualification. The course enables the learners to improve their understanding of their sport and strive for performance excellence. It is also a way to investigate the sports industry through health, fitness and sports coaching. Designed to support progression to higher education and employment when combined with other suitable qualifications.

### What subject options could I take with Sport?

Applied Business Studies and BTEC Science will compliment the BTEC Extended Certificate in Sport, well other combinations are also suitable.

## BTEC L3 Extended Diploma in Sport

### Equivalent to 3 A-Levels

Minimum grade required: 4 x 5-9 Grades at GCSE and if studied Merit in Cambridge National Sports Studies/BTEC Sport.

A previous PE/Sport qualification is not essential but an interest in sport/physical education is.

Exam Board: Pearson

Course Leader: Mr M McMeeking

mcmeekingm@ridgewayschool.com

### What will I be studying?

- Anatomy and physiology of sport (examination)
- Fitness training and programming examination)
- Investigating business in the sport industry examination)
- Development and Provision of Sport and Physical Activity (examination)
- Sport event organisation
- Professional development in the sports industry
- Application of fitness testing
- Rule, regulations and officiating in sport
- Sports leadership
- Skill acquisition in sport
- Practical sport performance
- Coaching for performance
- Research methods in sport
- Exercise, health and lifestyle

Students will be assessed through a number of practical based activities and theoretical assignments; four external exams will be taken over the course of the two years.

### Where can it take me?

The BTEC National Extended Diploma in Sport (Level 3) allows learners to gain a nationally recognised vocational qualification which can lead to a number of employment options as well as being recognised by all universities as a route for many degree courses.

### What subject options could I take with Sport?

As this course is equivalent to 3 A-Levels, we suggest that you seek opportunities for work experience alongside this course.

## English Literature

**Minimum Grade Required:** Grade 6 in GCSE English Language **and** 6 or above in GCSE English Literature

*\*Please note, unlike GCSE, A Level English students will have access to their course set texts in the exam and do not have to learn all quotations off by heart.\**

Exam Board: AQA

Faculty Leader: Mrs F Williams

williamsf@ridgewayschool.com

### What will I be studying?

A Level English Literature is a hugely respected, challenging and enjoyable course that will greatly sharpen and develop your skills of critical analysis and interpretation and your ability to write critically and analytically.

Throughout the course of your studies you will immerse yourself in a range of exciting and illuminating concepts, touching upon philosophy, history, politics and cultural studies as you explore prose, poetry and drama texts specifically selected for their high levels of engagement and challenge. You will critically analyse texts in different forms and genres, analysing the use of structure, form and language whilst investigating historical, cultural and biographical contexts as you develop an appreciation for the writer's craft and the power of language and ideas.

There will be ample opportunity for discussion and debate in lessons and you will develop your academic writing skills to produce articulate, well researched essays. You will be well supported as you nurture your skills of independent research and literary analysis through having free choice of texts, themes and question titles in the production of an independent critical study for coursework.

In studying this course, you will lay the foundation for a lifelong love of literature and ideas, as well as the ability to articulate complex ideas in a sophisticated, considered and academic manner.

### A Level English Literature Assessment Overview:

**Component 1:** Drama (Exam 30%)

**Component 2:** Prose (Exam 20%)

**Component 3:** Poetry (Exam 30%)

**Coursework:** Extended Comparative Essay (20%)

Over the course of your studies you will develop an enriched understanding of literature as you:

- read widely and independently set texts and other texts independently selected,
- engage critically and creatively with a substantial body of texts and ways of responding to them,
- develop and effectively apply your knowledge of literary analysis and evaluation,
- explore the contexts of the texts you are reading and others' interpretations of them,
- undertake independent and sustained studies to deepen your appreciation and understanding of English literature, including its changing traditions.

### Where can it take me?

A Level English Literature is a subject that is highly valued by universities as being a challenging and academic discipline. It is particularly suitable for university study in English but is also of relevance to Languages, Social Sciences, Humanities, and Law. It will be invaluable for any career in which skills of communication, analysis and logic are at a premium: e.g. Journalism, Media, Teaching, Librarianship, Human Resources etc.



## English Language and Literature

**Minimum Grade Required:** Grade 6 in GCSE English Language **and** 5 or above in GCSE English Literature.

*\*Please note, unlike GCSE, A Level English students will have access to their course set texts in the exam and do not have to learn all quotations off by heart.\**

Exam Board: AQA

Faculty Leader: Mrs F Williams

williamsf@ridgewayschool.com

### What will I be studying?

A Level English Language and Literature approaches language and literature in a combined way, employing a linguistic approach to help you read like a writer and write like a reader. You will be encouraged to develop as an analytical reader of literary fiction and non-fiction texts and a purposeful, precise writer of a variety of textual forms.

You will explore how texts are constructed in different contexts and for different audiences through the close analysis of a wide range of linguistic and literary techniques and concepts before applying these methods in your own writing. You will focus on how writers craft a distinctive 'voice' through the study of the stylistic features of a wide range of forms of fiction and non-fiction writing, including blogs, articles, autobiographies, plays and novels.

You will develop an understanding of how texts are constructed and how meaning is shaped and communicated to different audiences. You will be given ample opportunity to explore a range of engaging ideas and issues through the production of your own original fiction and non-fiction writing as well as the ability to critically reflect on your work through the production of a critical commentary.

You will develop an understanding of how texts are constructed and how meaning is shaped and communicated to different audiences. You will be given ample opportunity to explore a range of engaging ideas and issues through the production of your own original fiction and non-fiction writing as well as the ability to critically reflect on your work through the production of a critical commentary.

Over the course of your studies, you will lay the foundation for a lifelong love of literature, a genuine appreciation of the power of language, and the ability to articulate ideas and meaning assuredly in a wide range of written forms.

### A Level: English Language and Literature

#### Assessment Overview:

**Component 1:** Voices in Speech and Drama (Exam 40%)

**Component 2:** Varieties in Language and Literature (Exam 40%)

**Coursework:** Investigating and Creating Texts (20%)

By studying this A Level English Language and Literature course you will:

- use linguistic and literary approaches in your reading and interpretation of texts, showing how the two disciplines can relate to each other,
- engage creatively and critically with a wide range of texts,
- explore the ways in which texts relate to each other and the contexts in which they are produced and received,
- undertake independent and sustained studies in producing original writing as part of your coursework.

### Where can it take me?

A Level English Language and Literature is particularly suitable for university study in English and Creative Writing but it is also of relevance to Languages, Social Sciences, Humanities, Law and Management.

It will be invaluable for any career in which skills of communication, analysis and logic are at a premium: e.g. Management, Law, Journalism, Media, Teaching, Librarianship, Social Work, Human Resources, and industry.

# Enrichment

## Extended Project

Exam Board: AQA

Course Leader: Mr N Cairns

cairnsn@ridgewayschool.com

### What will I be studying?

This AQA Level 3 course is an academic enrichment qualification that gives you a chance to take control of your studies. You will develop the essential research, analytical, and essay writing skills that will enable you to thrive and succeed at university. You will develop time management skills, the ability to plan and organise your work load, how to collate and evaluate research sources, and how to develop critical conclusions. You can choose to explore a further aspect of a subject you'll be studying, or simply choose a topic that you have a personal interest in. The finished project can be a written report, a performance, a piece of art, a CD or DVD, or even computer software.

### Where can it take me?

The Extended Project is excellent preparation for university (particularly when your project topic relates directly to the subject you intend to study) and is highly regarded as evidence of your ability to work independently to an advanced standard. You will demonstrate that you can work independently, undertake research, manage large amounts of information, and produce a detailed academic report.

28 UCAS points are awarded for the Extended Project Qualification and also many universities potentially offer reduced grade offers based on a quality EPQ achieving at least an A.

## Art Leaders

Course Leader: Mrs S Hodge

hodges@ridgewayschool.com

This is an enrichment activity that allows you to get Creative!

You don't have to be studying an Arts Subject to take part, in fact you may be doing the complete opposite but have always wanted to dabble with a paint brush, or love designing clothes or secretly wish you could sing like Adele. If so, this is the enrichment for you.

Through exploring creative projects, you will naturally become an Arts Leader throughout the school and could become involved in performances and workshop activities for younger students so this might also be an activity to consider if you aspire to teaching at a later date.

We hope you will work closely with the Student Committees to plan and host events for R6.

There is the possibility of achieving an Arts Award for this enrichment but you don't have to, you may wish to participate purely for the Creative Buzz!

# Enrichment

## Maths & English GCSE Upgrade Opportunity

Course Leader: Mr M Webber (English)  
and Mrs C Horton (Maths)  
webberm@ridgewayschool.com  
hortonc@ridgewayschool.com

These compulsory courses are aimed at students who still need to achieve a 4 Grade in either Maths, English or both.

In keeping with the government's support of the key skills taught in Maths and English, it has made an exciting new commitment to continue to provide tuition and support in the Sixth Form.

Students will receive four hours of Maths and/or four hours of English teaching a fortnight.

English students will follow the AQA English Language course, consisting of two written exams. Maths students will follow the OCR linear course which consists of two written exams.

Maths students will be prepared for the OCR GCSE 9-1 (J560).

This consists of 3 1hr 30min papers, 2 calculator and 1 non-calculator papers. These will examine all areas of the maths curriculum.

There are two opportunities to sit the Maths and English exams: November and June.

## Well Being (Enrichment)

Course Leader: Mrs A Midson  
midsona@ridgewayschool.com

This group gives students the opportunity to step away from their usual routine in school to discuss certain topics and reflect on their personal experiences in a safe and trusting environment. We explore what 'wellbeing' means and how we can make small changes in our daily lives. Students practise different mindfulness based techniques for relaxation, such as formal meditation, and take part in other activities based on the NHS '5 Steps to Wellbeing.'

A willingness to take part in meditation and other activities, such as basic yoga stretches and walking, along with an open mind is essential for all students who attend this group.

You could benefit from attending if:

- You need a space to feel calm
- You may need time away from studies to connect with others
- You suffer with stress related symptoms such as panic attacks
- You could do with a confidence boost
- You think you might benefit from seeing things from a different perspective



# Enrichment

## HSLA

Higher Sports Leadership Award  
Course Leader: Mr M McMeeking  
mcmeekingm@ridgewayschool.com

### What will I be studying?

The aim of this course is to produce responsible, motivated and confident young leaders who can lead safe and enjoyable sporting activities, and also to encourage young people to get involved in organising and assisting with the provision of sport in the community. The Sports Leaders UK Level 3 Award in Higher Sports builds upon the leadership skills and experience gained through the Level 1 Award in Community Sports Leadership.

This course gives students the opportunity to learn new skills, to work with specialist community groups, and is of value to all those who wish to further develop their coaching skills.

The course is taught over 2 years (Y12 and Y13) 1 lesson per week. Students are rewarded for their commitment to coaching and volunteering and can log hours to achieve excellent awards.

As an accredited course, the HSLA is worth UCAS points.

### Where can it take me?

As it is an accredited course, you will officially qualify as a Community Sports Leader, with your name being registered on the Sports Leaders UK register, and it provides a common foundation for the Coaching Schemes of the National Governing Bodies of Sport.

## Duke of Edinburgh

Gold Award Leader: Mr H Bessant  
bessanth@ridgewayschool.com

The Duke of Edinburgh Award is not just about completing expeditions it allows students to participate in various activities. The four main areas covered are Skills, Physical Activities, Volunteering and including Expeditions.

Completion of the Award will help give you the skills, confidence and a view on life that everyone is looking for, from employers to colleges and universities. The Award recognises commitment, endeavour and a capacity for teamwork, whether that be in newly discovered activities ahead or things you already do. In completing the award, you'll people's lives and your community, be fitter and healthier, make new friends and have memories to last you a lifetime.

As well as making a difference to others, you will also visit St James' Palace, to receive your award from a member of the Royal Family.











## 10 reasons to join R6!

1. *Great outcomes*
2. *Personalised pastoral support*
3. *High quality teaching and academic support*
4. *Experience and proven success in university and apprenticeship applications*
5. *A variety of study areas suitable for all*
6. *Our very own R6 Café*
7. *Positive teacher relationships*
8. *Employability guidance and work shadowing opportunities*
9. *A strong community feel*
10. *A wide choice of enrichment activities and events*

[www.ridgewayschool.com](http://www.ridgewayschool.com)

The Ridgeway School & Sixth Form College

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Proud to be part of The White Horse Federation Multi-Academy Trust