



For  
September  
2017

## Sixth Form Course Guide



Application  
Deadline  
31 January  
2017



Highlands School  
World's End Lane  
London  
N21 1QQ



# Highlands School Sixth Form Course Guide

## The Sixth Form

This guide will help you to learn more about the course options available at Highlands School as well as giving you a brief introduction to other aspects of life as a sixth form student.

At Highlands you will be joining a thriving and successful sixth form. Progress from GCSE is judged to be greater than would typically be expected.

Pastoral care across the school was judged by OFSTED as outstanding and in the sixth form this is maintained by a specialist team of tutors led by an experienced member of the senior team.

Highlands Sixth Form offers a friendly, sociable and supportive environment focussed on achieving the highest standards through effective, innovative teaching and independent learning.

We aim to allow all students to develop a sense of responsibility for their work, for their choice of activities, for their fellow students, and for the wider community.

This is a high performing school where students make rapid progress and reach high standards across a broad range of subjects, including English and mathematics.

Students' high levels of achievement continue into the sixth form, with high standards attained in a range of subjects.

OFSTED 2014



## Why Highlands?

*This is what our students say:*

- ❖ "It's a friendly, family environment"
- ❖ "The teachers motivate us to stay focussed on our work"
- ❖ "I want to be part of the history of Highlands"
- ❖ "I feel we're all working towards the same goal"
- ❖ "I'm treated like an adult"
- ❖ "The pastoral care is great – there is always an open door"
- ❖ "Great facilities. We have our own photography dark room"
- ❖ "Teachers are approachable and willing to help"
- ❖ "We are expected to work hard"
- ❖ "So many opportunities to do other things"
- ❖ "I was made to feel so welcome and made friends easily"
- ❖ "My teacher encouraged me to set up a subject society"
- ❖ "Teachers respect you"
- ❖ "Teachers and students work well together"
- ❖ "Mentoring younger students has helped me too"



### Our Track Record

Highlands Sixth Form has a proven track record of success with young people of which we are very proud. We strive for the highest possible academic standards.

It is our aim to prepare you for higher education, lifelong learning, and your future careers.

Educational qualifications, however, are not the only consideration when making career choices; personal qualities are also very important and we offer you opportunities to develop many of the skills you will need for your future. We will work with you as an individual by giving you all the support you need to achieve your full potential in all areas of school life. All we ask in return is a positive attitude towards your studies, a co-operative attitude to working with Highlands staff and a willingness to get involved in the life of the school.

The sixth form is outstanding. Students are thoroughly prepared to progress to higher education or employment.

OFSTED 2014

### Recent University Entrance from Highlands

University	Course	University	Course
BATH	Maths	LEEDS	Business Maths
BIRMINGHAM	History	MANCHESTER	Chem Engineering
BOURNEMOUTH	Public Relations	MIDDLESEX	Primary Education
BRIGHTON	Politics	MIDDLESEX	TV Production
BRISTOL	Chemistry	MANCH MET	Retail Management
BRISTOL	Dentistry	NOTTINGHAM	Civil Engineering
BRUNEL	Economics	NOTTINGHAM	Biology
BSMS	Medicine	OXFORD	Mathematics Computing
CAMBRIDGE	Natural Sciences	NOTT TRENT	Fashion Management
CHICHESTER	Tourism	PLYMOUTH	Psychology
COVENTRY	Theatre	PORTSMOUTH	Socio & Criminology
DURHAM	Anthropology	PORTSMOUTH	Interior Design
EAST ANGLIA	Chemistry	QUEEN MARY	English
ESSEX	Drama	QUEEN MARY	Maths
EXETER	Law	READING	Geography
EXETER	Material Engineering	READING	Building Surveying
EXETER	English	ROEHAMPTON	Anthropology
GLOUCESTER	Journalism	RO HOLLOWAY	Geography
GREENWICH	Education	RO HOLLOWAY	Physics
HERTFORD	Auto. Engineer	ROYAL VET. COLLEGE	Vet Programme
HERTFORD	Event Management	SHEFFIELD	Electrical Engineering
HULL	Business	SOAS	History
IMPERIAL	Computing	SOUTHAMPTON	Law
IMPERIAL	Biomedical Sci	SOUTHAMPTON	History
KEELE	History	ST MARYS	Theatre and Drama
KENT	Politics	SURREY	Psychology
KENT	Physics	SUSSEX	Computer Science
KINGS	Mathematics	STIRLING	Animal Biology
KINGS	Medicine	UC ARTS	Fashion Mgt.
LEEDS	French	UCL	History
LEEDS	Physics	UCL	Psychology Neuroscience
LEICESTER	Computer Science	WARWICK	Law
LEICESTER	Medicine	WARWICK	Economics
LIVERPOOL	Accounting	WARWICK	Literature
LOUGHBOROUGH	Psychology	WESTMINSTER	Building Surveying



## How to apply for a place in the sixth form

We welcome applications from any student who is predicted to meet the entry requirements detailed below.

Applications must be made on the official school form and accompanied by either the Highlands School Year 11 CV (for internal candidates) or a confidential reference from the current school (for external candidates).

The deadline for applicants is Tuesday 31 January 2017

The application form is available on the school website at [www.highlands.enfield.sch.uk](http://www.highlands.enfield.sch.uk)



### Admissions Criteria

**A Level:** A minimum of 6 A\*-C grades with at least 3 A\*-B grades at GCSE including Maths (grade 5) and English (grade 5) and a grade B/6 in each of the subjects to be studied at A Level.

**BTEC:** A minimum of 6 A\*-D with at least 3 C/4 grades at GCSE including maths (grade 4) and English (grade 4)

### Age Limits

Students can only begin a course if they are under 18 years of age on the first day of term.

### External Students

There are a minimum of 10 guaranteed places for external students. Applicants who can demonstrate that their predicted grades meet the Highlands entry requirements will have their application held on file until confirmation of grades in August. Offers of places will then be made and in the case of over-subscription the standard entry criteria will be applied. These are, in order of priority: students holding a statement of educational need, students with siblings at the school, distance from school.

### Offers of places at Highlands School

Based on evidence available from the application form and reference, students who satisfy the admissions criteria will be made a conditional offer. A firm offer will only be made following confirmation of GCSE results in the summer.

### Induction Period

All students entering the Sixth Form are to attend an induction period in the first week of July. This is to ensure that students are on suitable courses and that their approach to their learning and that of sixth form life is appropriate.

### Enrolment

Students will be required to attend school on a specified date after GCSE results to confirm their place and 'sign-on', this is normally in the final week of the summer holiday.

### Probation Period

All students must satisfactorily complete the six week probation during September and October before their place is confirmed. During this period regular checks are made on:

- Attendance,
- Behaviour for Learning,
- Contribution to the sixth form,
- Dress Code,
- Effort and
- Finishing of work.

### Appeals Procedures

Parents of students who are not offered places may appeal to the Governors of the school.

### Progression to Year 13 (second year of study)

In order to secure a place in Year 13 students must obtain at least the minimum pass grade in the Year 12 subjects. We recommend that a D grade is the minimum for continuing with A Level and that a merit is obtained at BTEC. Students in Year 13 are required to take 3 subjects or BTEC equivalents.



### **Pastoral Structure**

Every student is allocated to a tutor group and form tutors will act as mentors and supervisors, monitoring the academic progress of every student. Sixth Form courses are very demanding and it is essential that tutors are in touch with how well their students are coping. Regular individual meetings are held to monitor progress. A small elected Sixth Form Student Committee co-ordinates the duties of Sixth Form students and plays a key role in liaising between the Sixth Form and staff, meeting with the Director of 6<sup>th</sup> form and tutors regularly. As representatives of the Sixth Form they play key roles in the leadership of the School Council. The group also has responsibility for the Sixth Form Common Room and organisation of social events. Each year a Head Boy and Head Girl are elected by the students and staff.

### **Dress Code**

In the sixth form students may wear smart casual clothing of their own choice. We have tried to create a professional ambience in the Sixth Form whilst also allowing students to have some control over their own dress. It is important to remember that the Sixth Form are role models for the rest of the school and that the school is primarily a place of work. Students must wear clothing that would be acceptable in an office environment.



### **Independent Learning**

Independent learning is an important aspect of sixth form study and guidance is given to students as to how to use their private study time most productively. For everyone's benefit there are rules about the use of facilities so that everyone is able to enjoy them while showing consideration for the needs of others. In Year 12 students are given timetabled study periods in which they work in supervised conditions with a member of staff.



In the second year of the sixth-form it is usually possible to study off-site. A Home Study Licence is issued when a student has demonstrated, through the interim report, that they are On Target and have developed the necessary skills to be an independent learner. In addition to private study in school, we expect students to be doing at least fifteen hours study per week outside of timetabled sessions.

### **Equal Opportunity**

Regardless of gender, race, religion, stature, physical abilities or status, all members of the Highlands School community have an equal right to enjoy an environment where they are treated with respect and enabled to pursue their work without interference or discrimination. Our students and staff come from a very wide range of cultural backgrounds which is a considerable enrichment, asset and resource in the school's international outlook on the world. Highlands School was designed as an inclusive school. Facilities include easy access to all floors via lifts, convenient toilets with access for wheelchair users and those with physical needs throughout the school. The Learning Support Faculty will assess how support can be arranged for any new Sixth Form student with special needs, working with the school's Welfare Officers and outside agencies as necessary.



### **Enrichment**

In the Sixth Form students will be offered many opportunities to develop a wide portfolio of skills and experience which aim to enrich the individual. These include Highlands Helping Hands, Adopt a Teacher, student mentoring, organising clubs and societies, Youth Action Volunteers, Duke of Edinburgh, trips and visits.



## Making The Best Subject Combination Choices

When considering your choice of course it is important to keep in mind the essential subjects required by universities. Some subjects are more frequently required for entry to degree courses than others. These are often referred to as ‘facilitating’ subjects because choosing them at advanced level keeps open a wide range of options for university study. These facilitating subjects are:

- Biology
- English Literature
- History
- Modern and Classical Languages
- Chemistry
- Geography
- Physics
- Maths and Further Maths

If you don’t know what you want to study at university then it’s a really good rule of thumb that taking two facilitating subjects will keep a wide range of degree courses open to you.

This table gives an indication of the essential and useful subjects for some popular university courses and there are some information videos in the apply section of our school website. You can also consult individual university websites for full requirement. The Russell Group publication “Informed Choices” is also a useful internet guide. There is a link to this document on our website.

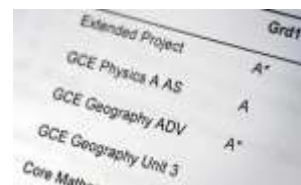
	Essential A Level subjects	Useful Additional Subjects
Medicine / Dentistry Biological / Life Sciences	Chemistry and Biology	Mathematics, Further Maths
Physical Sciences Engineering	Mathematics and Physics	Chemistry, Further Maths
Maths	Maths, Further Maths	Physics, Further Maths, Computer Science
Economics Actuarial Science	Mathematics	Economics, Further Mathematics
Humanities		English, History, Geography, MFL, Psychology, Biology
Psychology	Some require Biology or Chemistry	Biology, Psychology, Chemistry, English, Sociology
Law	Some require English	English, History
Computer Science	Mathematics	Further Mathematics, Physics, Computer Science
The Arts, Social Sciences, English	English Lit, History, MFL, Maths, Drama, Art	Economics, Geography, Religious Studies, Sciences
Business Accounting		Mathematics, Business, Economics
Teacher Training	A national curriculum subject	English, Mathematics, Geography, History, Sciences



## A Levels

A Levels are two year courses with challenging exams at the end of the course which test the whole of the syllabus. There are no longer any units or resit opportunities during the two years.

Most students will choose to study THREE A Levels throughout Years 12 & 13. Some of our most able students will study FOUR A Levels.



### Subjects available at A Level

Art	Economics	Mathematics	PE
Biology	English Language	Maths: Further	Physics
Chemistry	English Literature	MFL: French	Psychology
Computer Science	Geography	MFL: Spanish	RS: Philosophy
Design & Technology	Government & Politics	Music	Sociology
Drama & Theatre Studies	History	Photography	

Whenever possible Highlands School will deliver these subjects through lessons based on site. The provision of any individual subject is based on student numbers with a minimum group size of 11. Highlands is an active member of the Enfield Sixth Form Consortium and we are able to offer minority subjects through collaboration with local schools.

## BTEC National Level 3

BTEC Nationals are Level 3 (A Level equivalent) work-related qualifications and are assessed through written examination and coursework. The courses provide specialist, work-related learning, delivering the knowledge, skills and understanding students need to prepare for their chosen career. BTEC Nationals offer progression to higher education or directly into employment. The qualification is equivalent to 3 A Levels and is graded at Distinction\*, Distinction, Merit and Pass.

We offer a choice of 3:

- ❖ Business
- ❖ Creative Media Production (Film, Television and Interactive Media)
- ❖ Sport (provisional - from 2017)

It may be possible, by negotiation, for a student to study the smaller Diploma (12 unit) course with the addition of one or two AS courses in Year 12. Entry requirements for the AS course must be met.

Full details of the BTEC courses can be found later in this booklet.





## English

Exam Board: EDEXCEL

Students may study either English Language or English Literature or both as two separate A Levels

### Entry Requirements

Grade 6 or better in GCSE English/Literature

### Course Content

If you enjoyed English at GCSE and actively enjoy reading and researching around a topic, this could be the right option for you.

English is a course that encourages your independence of thought and an enthusiasm for Language/Literature. It is very important that you develop your own ideas in your responses to texts, building on and enhancing the skills you have gained at GCSE.

You will study a rich range of complete texts, extracts and shorter texts from a broad spectrum of types. You will not be 'taught' texts in the same way as you were at GCSE. You will be expected to have a personal relationship with texts.

Your ideas about Linguistics/Literature will be challenged. You will be asked what the purpose of Language/Literature is and why we study it. You will be asked to explore how writers achieve effects in their works and what choices they have made to impact upon the reader. You will consider the ideologies and points of view of writers and their social and political context.

### Progression Routes

English is a broad and inclusive subject that prepares you well for the demands of Higher Education. It is one of the most popular subjects to study at university level.

English is a very useful subject for any career where you communicate with people. Occupations such as journalism, education and marketing are all keen to employ successful English graduates. Career opportunities are abundant to an individual with a degree in English because skills gained from this area of study can be easily applied to many career areas. Individuals possessing the ability to think clearly and critically, to analyze and interpret data, and communicate results are in great demand by employers.

For some ideas visit; [www.careerservices.rutgers.edu/Menglish.html](http://www.careerservices.rutgers.edu/Menglish.html)

## English Language

The course is structured around 4 modules. In Year 12 students study "Language: Context & Identity" and "Child Language" both of which are tested through external examinations. In Year 13, students revisit "Language Variation" and "Child Language" as well as completing a further examination in "Investigating Language". In this A-Level year, students will also complete a piece of non-examined assessment, a coursework folder on "Crafting Language" where they will submit two pieces of writing from the same genre and an extended commentary, reflecting and analysing their own written work.

## English Literature

The course is structured around 4 modules. In Year 12 students study "Poetry & Drama", including a modern anthology of poems and *A Streetcar Named Desire*. While during the "Prose" components students study *Tess of the d'Urbervilles* and *A Thousand Splendid Suns*. In Year 13, students study each component separately, "Drama", "Prose" and "Poetry". In this A-Level year, students will also complete a coursework piece, comprising of an independent comparative essay of between 2500 and 3000 words.







## Mathematics

**Exam Board:** Edexcel

**Entry Requirements** - Grade 6 or better in GCSE Maths

### Course Content

Mathematics is a course worth studying not only as a supporting subject for the physical and social sciences, but in its own right. It is challenging but interesting. It builds on work you will have met at GCSE, but also involves new ideas produced by some of the greatest minds of the last millennium.

Mathematics is divided into the following branches:

#### Pure Mathematics

You will be extending your knowledge of algebra and trigonometry as well as learning some brand new ideas such as calculus. This is the study of the more abstract elements of Mathematics: it teaches the knowledge and skills that underpin the whole course.

Topic 1 – Proof • Topic 2 – Algebra and functions • Topic 3 – Coordinate geometry in the  $(x,y)$  plane • Topic 4 – Sequences and series • Topic 5 – Trigonometry • Topic 6 – Exponentials and logarithms • Topic 7 – Differentiation • Topic 8 – Integration • Topic 9 – Vectors

#### Mechanics

Mechanics deals with the action of forces on objects. It is therefore concerned with many everyday situations, e.g. the motion of cars, the flight of a cricket ball through the air, the stresses in bridges and the motion of the earth around the sun. Such problems have to be simplified or modelled to make them capable of solution using relatively simple mathematics. Many of the ideas you will meet in the course form an almost essential introduction to such important modern fields of study such as cybernetics, robotics, bio-mechanics and sports science, as well as the more traditional areas of engineering and physics.

#### Statistics

When you study statistics you will learn how to analyse and summarise numerical data in order to arrive at conclusions about it. Many of the ideas in this part of the course have applications in a wide range of other fields, from assessing what your car insurance is going to cost to how likely it is that the Earth will be hit by a comet in the next few years. Many of the techniques are used in sciences and social sciences. Even if you are not going on to study or work in these fields, in today's society we are bombarded with information (or data) and the statistics units will give you useful tools for looking at this information critically and efficiently.

### Assessment

Three 2 hour written examinations taken at the end of Year 13

### Progression Routes

Advanced GCE Mathematics is a much sought-after qualification for entry to a wide variety of full-time courses in higher education. There are also many areas of employment that see a Mathematics A Level as an

important qualification and it is often a requirement for the vocational qualifications related to these areas.

Higher Education courses or careers that either require Advanced GCE Mathematics or are strongly related include:

Economics	Medicine
Architecture	Engineering
Accountancy	Geography (BSc)
Teaching	Psychology
Physics	Computing

## Further Mathematics

### Entry Requirements

Grade 7 or better in GCSE Maths

Essential for those that want to study mathematics at university and also to support engineering and physics.

Students who select Further Maths must also select Mathematics, so this route accounts for two option choices.

### Topics

Proof, Complex numbers, Matrices, Further algebra and functions, Further calculus, Further vectors, Polar coordinates, Hyperbolic functions, Differential equations. Further Statistics & Mechanics





## Science A Levels

There are no coursework elements in the science courses. Instead, students will be required to complete a number of **core practicals** throughout the course that cover specific skills and techniques. Students' investigative skills and knowledge and understanding of core practicals will be tested in exam papers and will contribute to their final grades.

In addition, students' skills and technical competency when completing practical work will be assessed by teachers. This will form the basis for the award of a Practical Endorsement at A Level. This is separate to the A Level grade and, if awarded, will be reported as a 'Pass' on A Level certificates for students who achieve it.

**Entry Requirements**

To study a Science subject, either a B grade in the specific subject at GCSE is required or, if 'Core' and 'Additional Science' were taken, a B is required in both qualifications plus a B grade must have been obtained on the specific subject paper within those qualifications. A Grade 6 in maths is also required for physics.

**Assessment**

All topics are externally assessed by written examination. (3 papers at the end of Year 13)

A separate endorsement of practical skills will be taken alongside the A-level. This will be assessed by your teachers and will be based on direct observation of students' competency in a range of skills that are assessed in written exams.

## Biology

Edexcel Biology B

**Course Content**

You will develop practical skills by planning experiments, collecting data, analysing experimental results and making conclusions. You will also learn how scientific models are developed, the applications and implications of science, the benefits and risks that science brings and the ways in which society uses science to make decisions.

**Year 12 topics:**

- Topic 1: Biological Molecules
- Topic 2: Cells and Viruses
- Topic 3: Classification and Biodiversity
- Topic 4: Exchange and Transport

**Year 13 topics:**

- Topic 5: Energy for Biological Processes
- Topic 6: Microbiology and Pathogens
- Topic 7: Modern Genetics
- Topic 8: Origins of Genetic Variation
- Topic 9: Control Systems
- Topic 10: Ecosystems

**Progression Routes**

- ❖ An undergraduate degree in a life sciences, medicine, environmental or forensic science
- ❖ Employment, for example in the areas of biological testing, biotechnology, independent research and the food industry.
- ❖ There is a compulsory field trip in Year 13

## Chemistry

AQA

**Course content**

The course covers Physical, Inorganic and Organic chemistry

**Year 12 topics**Physical chemistry 1

Atomic structure, amount of substance, bonding, energetic, kinetics, chemical equilibrium, Lechatelier's principle and Kc.

Inorganic Chemistry 1

Periodicity, group 2 the alkaline earth metals and Group 7(17) the halogens.

Organic Chemistry 1

Alkanes, haloalkanes, alkenes, alcohols, organic analysis.

**Year 13 topics**Physical chemistry 2

Thermodynamics, kinetics, equilibrium constant, electrode potentials, acids, bases & buffers

Inorganic chemistry 2

Periodicity, transition metals, reactions of inorganic compounds in aqueous solutions

Organic chemistry 2

Isomerism, carbonyl groups, aromatic chemistry, amines, polymerisation, amino acids, proteins & DNA, organic synthesis, chromatography

**Progression Routes**

- ❖ A degree course such as Chemistry, Pharmacy, Medicine, Medical Science
- ❖ Careers such as Chemical Engineering, Veterinary Science, Quality control, Polymer Engineering and related programmes



## Physics

Edexcel

### Course Content

By studying Physics you will gain knowledge and understanding in the content areas described below. You will also learn how to think analytically, enabling you to analyse, interpret and evaluate a range of scientific information, ideas and evidence. You will gain an appreciation of how scientific models are developed and evolved, the applications and implications of science, the benefits and risks that science brings and the ways in which society uses science to make decisions.

#### Year 12 topics:

Topic 1: Working as a Physicist

Topic 2: Mechanics

Topic 3: Electric circuits

Topic 4: Materials

Topic 5: Waves and the particle nature of light

#### Year 13 topics (in addition to the above):

Topic 6: Further mechanics

Topic 7: Electric and magnetic fields

Topic 8: Nuclear and particle physics

Topic 9: Thermodynamics

Topic 10: Space

Topic 11: Nuclear radiation

Topic 12: Gravitational fields

Topic 13: Oscillations

### Progression Routes

You could use Physics to support other qualifications or move on to further studies or employment, including:

- ❖ An undergraduate degree in Physics, Engineering, or just about anything else! Of all the subjects listed for entry on to a degree, physics came second only to maths in the number of times it was listed as essential in a recent report by the Russell Group of UK universities
- ❖ A career in environment and climate, space, energy, medicine, building and structures, law and finance, education, sports and games, music and television, transport, cutting edge technology, or something completely different!

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





Fine Art

AQA

**Entry Requirements**

Grade B or better in GCSE Art

**Course Content**

Students will work in at least two of the following areas of art, craft and design: Fine Art, Graphic Design, Textiles, Three-Dimensional Design and Photography. They may explore overlapping areas and combination areas producing practical and critical/contextual work in their chosen areas.

**Units**

- Unit 1 Coursework portfolio consisting of observational drawings and material based work
- Unit 2 Controlled test - Students select one of five starting points and are required to produce preparatory work and a finished piece or pieces.
- Unit 3 Personal investigation - based on an idea, issue, concept or theme, supported by a written element of no less than 1000 words and no more than 3000 words, leading to a finished piece or pieces.
- Unit 4 Controlled test

**Progression Routes**

- ❖ A higher education course in fine art, graphic design, textile design, 3D design, or a career in one of these areas.



Photography

AQA



**Entry Requirements**

Grade B or better in GCSE Art or Graphics or evidence of photographic skill in a portfolio.

**Course Content**

Students will produce practical and critical/contextual work in one or more areas including portraiture, landscape photography, still-life photography, documentary photography, photo-journalism & experimental imagery.

Areas of study include: history of photography (equipment, materials, photographers and photographic movements), general photographic theory, darkroom skills for black and white photography, digital photography, using Photoshop and photographic contextual studies.

**Units**

- Unit 1 coursework: a portfolio of developmental work
- Unit 2 controlled assignment
- Unit 3 personal investigation - a major assignment, supported by developmental work and visual and other recordings of and responses to different artists' work by theme, style or time period
- Unit 4 Controlled assessment

**Progression Routes**

- ❖ A higher education course in photography, media or art and design.
- ❖ A career in one of these areas.

Product Design (3D Design)

AQA

**Entry Requirements**

Grade B or better in GCSE Resistant Materials or Graphics.

**Course Content**

This course has been designed to encourage students to take a broad view of design and technology, to develop their capacity to design and make products, and to appreciate the complex relations between design, materials, manufacture and marketing.

**Units**

- Paper 1: Core technical principles and core designing and making principles.  
2 hours  
25% of A-level
- Paper 2: Specialist knowledge, technical and designing and making principles.  
2 hours  
25% of A-level
- NEA: (previously known as coursework)  
45 hours  
100 marks  
50% of A level.

**Progression Routes**

- ❖ This qualification supports progression into further education such as a university or college course to study a HND or Degree.
- ❖ Training or employment, such as any appropriate design-related course.



**Drama & Theatre Studies**

**Edexcel**

**Entry Requirements**

Grade B or better in an expressive arts subject; however students with a sustained and active interest in the arts outside of the curriculum, or students with strong writing skills in their GCSE (in English or the written element of GCSE Drama) will also be considered.

**Course Content**

Drama and Theatre Studies aims to extend your knowledge, skills and understanding of drama and apply this to your own creative work. The emphasis is on working with play texts, improvisation, devised work and performing. Your studies will be done from the point of view of a director, designer, performer and critic and allows you to develop both your performance and analytical skills.

**Assessment**

A piece of coursework where you will develop and perform a unique piece of theatre from a stimulus using a drama practitioner as an influence.

A practical exam where you perform two scripted pieces – one group and one monologue or duologue.

A written exam where you will write as an actor, designer, director and theatre critique about the study of two set texts

**Progression Routes**

- ❖ Students on this course will be able to progress to study drama at universities and drama schools.
- ❖ The course opens up opportunities in the professional world of Arts Administration, Stage Management and other Arts related areas.
- ❖ Studying drama support applicants studying law, medicine and other career paths that rely on good communication skills.

**Music**

**Entry Requirements**

Grade B or better in GCSE Music and an ability to read music

**Course Content**

The qualification builds on the knowledge, understanding and skills that you achieved in GCSE Music. You will be expected to be proficient with a musical instrument, roughly equivalent to grade 4 or above ABRSM.

**Course Content:**

- Unit 1 Understanding Music
- Unit 2 Composing
- Unit 3 Performing
- Unit 4 Understanding Music
- Unit 5 Composing
- Unit 6 Performing

**Assessment**

Assessment will take the form of internal composition and performance, and external written and listening papers.

**Progression Routes**

- ❖ Degree studies or diplomas
- ❖ Music industry, film/TV music.
- ❖ Music is recognised as an entry qualification for a wide range of Higher Education courses and employment opportunities.



**Physical Education**

**Edexcel**

**Entry Requirements**

Grade B or better in GCSE PE

**Course Content**

You will develop your knowledge and skills in a range of sporting roles; explore contemporary issues in modern sport, examine the effects of exercise, identify the pathways and opportunities available to participate in sport and recreation at a local, national and international level, enhance your understanding of how elite performers prepare for sports competition, find ways to improve your own performance.

**Course Content**

- Unit 1 Theory
- Unit 2 Personal performance, local study, national study and performance analysis
- Unit 3 Optimum sports performance
- Unit 4 Developing the sports performer

**Assessment**

Units 1 and 3 are externally assessed.  
Units 2 and 4 are internally assessed.

**Progression Routes**

- ❖ University courses such as sports sciences, physiotherapy, recreation and leisure studies.
- ❖ Employment in such areas as recreational management, leisure activities, the armed forces and the Civil Service

## A Level Subjects – Humanities

### Geography

AQA

#### Entry Requirements

Grade B or better in GCSE  
Geography

#### Course Content

You will make the most of local field studies as well as looking at the classic river studies around the UK and World.

7.3 billion people now, 12 billion people by 2040. Do we have enough food and water for them? Will resources run out? Will migration occur on a greater scale than seen so far? Will this lead to conflicts over resources?

#### Course Content

Unit 1 Physical and Human Geography  
Unit 2 Geographical Skills  
Unit 3 Contemporary Geographical Issues  
Unit 4 Geography Fieldwork Investigation

#### Assessment

By written examination

#### Progression Routes

- ❖ Geography offers a path to university or other forms of higher education
- ❖ Career paths after university are highly varied as geography is rated highly by employers for the range of skills that it fosters.



Above: Barcelona field trip:  
AS geography course



### History

OCR

#### Entry Requirements

Grade B or better in GCSE History

#### Course Content

'The study of history is the best medicine for a sick mind. For in history you have a record of the infinite variety of human experience plainly set out for all to see; and in that record you can find yourself and your country both examples and warnings; fine things to take as models, base things, rotten through and through to avoid.' Livy.

#### Course Content

Unit 1 The Rise of China  
Unit 2 The Age of Gladstone and Disraeli 1865-1886  
Unit 3 Thatcher's Britain  
Unit 4 Russia and its Rulers 1855-1964

#### Assessment

AS: 2 written papers both 1 ½ hr  
one paper source skills and one essay based  
A Level: Coursework 20% of final grade and one written 2 hr exam

#### Progression Routes

- ❖ History offers a path to university or other forms of higher education to continue the study of history or related subjects such as Law or Politics or Journalism.
- ❖ You could also pursue a career in areas such as research, politics, social service

### RS: Philosophy & Ethics



#### Entry Requirements

Grade 6 or better in GCSE English or a humanities subject

#### Course Content

This course asks questions such as: what is the truth, what is the meaning and purpose of existence and what is the right thing to do? In turn, it provides rigorous methods of analysing and offering answers to these questions.

#### Course Content

Unit 1 Philosophy of Religion  
Unit 2 Religion and Ethics  
Unit 3 Philosophy of Religion (3B)  
Unit 4 Religion & Human Experience: Perceptions of Ultimate Reality

#### Assessment

By written examination

#### Progression Routes

- ❖ Philosophy offers a path towards university or other forms of higher education.
- ❖ Students interested in philosophical issues could pursue a career in journalism, politics, law or any of the branches of social care or human resources as well as teaching, acting, accountancy or environmentalism.

Economics

OCR

**Entry Requirements**

Grade 6 or better in GCSE Maths and Grade B or better in a humanities subject

**Course Content**

A key aspect of life and survival requires input from businesses. One of the key pillars of economic theory is that “Human wants are unlimited”. As a result humans have to ‘do without’ some goods and services. However, the goods and services which are delivered to consumers, in an attempt to satisfy their wants are produced by businesses. This relationship supports the basic idea of a course in Economics.

**Course Content**

- Unit 1 Markets in Action
- Unit 2 The National and International Economy
- Unit 3 Economics of Work and Leisure
- Unit 4 The Global Economy

**Assessment**

Written examinations including case studies and essay

**Progression Routes**

This course can lead to further study of economics, politics, law, business, finance or social sciences at university. Future careers include: banking, management, insurance and actuary sciences.



Government & Politics

AQA

**Entry Requirements**

Grade B or better in a GCSE humanities subject

**Course Content**

Politics is all around us and our lives are often governed by the decisions of others, whether that be laws that determine how we live or institutions that provide services we use every day, from the Health Service, the police, schools, courts, the media or the local council.

G&P looks at who holds power within the UK and the ways that different power holders interact with each other, particularly when compared to other systems such as the USA. It also examines the political ideas we hold and how this has shaped the type of country and people we are today.

**Course Content**

- Unit 1 People, Politics and Participation
- Unit 2 Governing Modern Britain
- Unit 3 Ideologies
- Unit 4 Political Ideologies in Action

**Progression Routes**

This course can lead to further study of politics, law or social affairs at university. Future careers include: the civil service, law, the voluntary sector or local government and many others besides.

Psychology

Edexcel

**Entry Requirements**

Grade B or better in a GCSE humanities subject or Grade 6 in GCSE English

**Course Content**

You will learn about five major ways of understanding human behaviour. You will discover a key topic of research; learn about important studies related to that topic, and find out how research is conducted in that area. You will learn to use statistical tests to help interpret data. You will have an opportunity to study some uses of psychology in the real world.

**Course Content**

- Unit 1 Social and Cognitive Approaches
- Unit 2 Psychodynamic, Biological and Learning Approaches
- Unit 3 Criminological and Health Psychology
- Unit 4 Clinical Psychology and Issues and Debates

**Assessment**

Written examinations including multiple choice, short answers questions and essays

**Progression Routes**

Occupations such as journalism, nursing and marketing. Because it sits on the boundary between Arts and Science subjects, it combines elements of both. If you choose the Arts route, psychology shows a competence in scientific thinking and numeracy that will add breadth to your skills. Similarly, the Science route can often lack the opportunity to show your ability to construct a well argued essay, but psychology will show you can do this.



## Sociology

AQA

### Entry Requirements

Grade B or better in a GCSE humanities subject or Grade 6 GCSE English

### Course Content

You will be developing practical research skills by means of designing, carrying out and analysing your own sociological research.

Sociology is suitable if you:

- want to explore and understand how society works
- enjoy debating and critically analysing social theory
- enjoy creating and carrying out social research
- want to use Sociology to move on to further studies in Higher Education or to support other qualifications.

Unit 1 Families and Household

Unit 2 Education

Unit 3 Beliefs in Society

Unit 4 Crime and Deviance

### Assessment

Written examinations including source material and essays

### Progression Routes

Sociology gives you a number of skills that can be useful in a variety of careers. It can also lead you into higher education courses such as Social Policy or Anthropology. Jobs in areas such as Marketing, Journalism, Social Research, teaching all require skills learnt from Sociology.

## Computer Science

OCR

### Entry Requirements

Grade 6 or better in GCSE Maths  
OR Grade B or better in GCSE Computing

### Course Content

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
  - Elements of computational thinking
  - Problem solving and programming
  - Algorithms to solve problems and standard algorithms

### Assessment Overview

1. Computer systems

2½ hr written exam

40% of A-Level total

2. Algorithms and Programming

2½ hr written exam

40% of A-Level total

3. Programming Project

Coursework component

20% of A-Level total

### Progression Routes

- ❖ A degree in computing, IT or related fields, such as:  
Software Engineering  
(Programming Degree)

Employment in the area of, for example, programming or IT Technician role.



## MFL: French/Spanish

AQA

### Entry Requirements

Grade B or better in GCSE French or Spanish

### Course Content

Unit 1 Listening, Reading and Writing (2 hours)

Unit 2 Speaking (20 minutes prep, 5 minute discussion of stimulus card and 10 minute conversation)

Unit 3 Listening, Reading and Writing (2 ½ hours)

Unit 4 Speaking (20 minutes prep, 5 minute discussion of stimulus card and 10 minute conversation)

### Assessment

Written examinations including case studies, multiple choice and essay

### Progression Routes

Advanced knowledge of a language is always beneficial and often gives a candidate an advantage when applying for a job.

Study can continue at university with either a single or joint honours degree

Please note that the provision of any language teaching at Highlands is dependent on numbers. All students will be able to study through the collaborative teaching arrangements with other local Enfield schools.





## Level 3 BTEC SUBJECTS

### BTEC L3 Business

#### Entry Requirements

6 Grade A\*-D including Grade 4 in both English & Maths and one other Grade C

#### Course Content

You will develop knowledge of business from a number of perspectives. You will also develop practical research skills which will allow you to investigate how businesses of all sizes operate. Students who choose to study BTEC Business will also take part in work experience and would be asked to attend work related visits in order to complete key assessments.

#### First year 9 units, including:

- The Business Environment
- Business Resources
- Marketing
- Business Communication
- Food Retailing
- Human Resource Management

#### Second year 9 units, including:

- Creative Product Promotion
- Aspects of Employment Law
- Business Accounting
- Managing Business Events
- Starting a Small Business
- International Business

#### Assessment

There are written examinations and coursework tasks which are taken throughout the course. All units are assessed and graded on a Pass, Merit and Distinction grade. Your coursework will be internally assessed and work is then sent off for verification

#### Progression Routes

BTEC Business can lead to further study in any aspect of accounting, business, finance or management at university. This course can also lead to a wide variety of careers in business, finance, insurance, banking and management after completion.

### BTEC L3 Creative Media Production

#### Entry Requirements

6 Grade A\*-D including a Grade 4 in English and two other Grade Cs

#### Course Content

The following units will give you all of the information, knowledge and analytical techniques you will need to produce your own moving images to the same standard as that which is broadcast. Most of these units, however, will not be taught just in the classroom, but will be explored through practical work.

- Understanding the Media
- Research Techniques
- Media Skills
- Professional Practice in the Media Industry
- Production Management
- Pre-Production Techniques
- Interview & Presentation Techniques
- Writing for Television and Video
- Television and Video Studies
- Film Studies

#### Assessment

There are written examinations and coursework tasks which are taken throughout the course. All units are assessed and graded on a Pass, Merit and Distinction grade. Your coursework will be internally assessed and work is then sent off for verification

#### Progression Routes

- ❖ This course can lead to further study at university
- ❖ It can also lead to employment in areas such as video technology, shooting drama, video editing, layering sound on screen, designing graphics and idents for screens, factual programme production techniques, producing advertisements.





## BTEC L3 Sport

### Entry Requirements

6 Grade A\*-D with Grade 4 in both English & Maths and a Grade C in Core Science

**We are considering running this new Level 3 BTEC course from 2017 – if you are interested and are predicted to meet the entry requirement please include this subject in your application alongside other choices so that we can gauge likely uptake.**

### Course Content

Everyone taking this qualification will study mandatory units, covering the following content areas:

- Anatomy and Physiology
- Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Well-being
- Professional Development in the Sports Industry
- Sports Leadership
- Investigating Business in Sport and the Active Leisure Industry
- Skill Acquisition in Sport.

The mandatory content allows students to concentrate on the development of their practical skills and the broad knowledge required for entrance to higher education programmes in sport and exercise science.

Other school chosen optional units have been designed to support progression to a variety of sport courses in higher

education and to link with relevant occupational areas. This allows students either to choose a specific specialist area in which they wish to develop their skill, or to continue on a broad programme.

We are hoping to link this course to a football development programme for some students.

### Assessment

There are written examinations and coursework tasks which are taken throughout the course.

All units are assessed and graded on a Pass, Merit and Distinction grade. Your coursework will be internally assessed and work is then sent off for verification

### Progression Routes

The qualification carries UCAS points and, when taken alongside another Level 3 qualification, it is recognised by higher education providers as meeting admission requirements for many relevant sport science or related courses, for example:

- BA (Hons) in Sports Development / Management, if taken with BTEC Business
- BSc (Hons) in Exercise, Health and Fitness, if taken with A Levels in Biology and Sociology
- BSc (Hons) in Sport and Exercise Psychology, if taken with A Levels in Psychology and Maths.

Check the entry requirements for degree programmes with specific higher education providers.





## Subject Specific Entry Requirements

SUBJECT	GCSE CRITERIA
Art	B in GCSE Art
Biology	B in GCSE Biology or BB in Core /Additional with B in biology module
Business L3 BTEC	6 Grade A*-D with Grade 4 in English & Maths and one other Grade C
Chemistry	B in GCSE Chemistry or BB in Core/Additional with B in chemistry module
Computer Science	6 in GCSE Maths
D&T - Product Design	B in DT (Resistant Materials or Graphics)
Drama	B in GCSE Drama or evidence of active interest in drama
Economics	6 in GCSE Maths
English Literature	6 in GCSE English Literature
English Language	6 in GCSE English Language
French	B in GCSE French
Further Maths	7 in GCSE Maths
Geography	B in GCSE Geography
Government & Politics	B in a related Humanities subject (eg History, RE) or 6 in English
History	B in GCSE History
Maths	6 in GCSE Maths
Media L3 BTEC	6 Grade A*-D including a Grade 4 in English two other Grade Cs
Music	B in GCSE Music PLUS proven ability to read Music
Photography	B in GCSE Art or high quality portfolio of work
PE	B in GCSE PE PLUS 2 GCSE Science grade Cs or better
Physics	B in GCSE Physics or BB in Core /Additional with B in physics module. 6 in GCSE Maths
Psychology	B in GCSE Humanities or 6 in English Language PLUS 2 GCSE Science grade Cs or better
Religious Studies	B in GCSE RS / Humanities
Sociology	B in GCSE Humanities or 6 English Language
Spanish	B in GCSE Spanish
Sport L3 BTEC	6 Grade A*-D with Grade 4 in English & Maths and a Grade C in Science