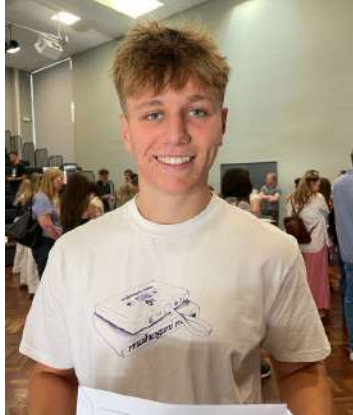




# Prince William School Oundle



**Sixth Form  
Prospectus 2024/25**



# Welcome from the Headteacher

Thank you for your interest in Prince William School's Sixth Form. We would like to extend a warm welcome to all prospective students and parent/carers.

We know that choosing the right Sixth Form is not easy. We hope that this prospectus will give you an insight into the wide range of opportunities available to our sixth form students, helping them to develop their talents and abilities to the full. We believe every student is capable of the extraordinary and we work assiduously to ensure every student has the opportunities to develop as learners, leaders, and young adults.

We endeavour to support our students to realise and exceed their potential by providing an environment in which they feel challenged to achieve, yet safe and supported as a member of the Prince William family. Students develop interests and talents, and friendships that can last a lifetime, as well as achieving excellent examination results.

To realise ambitions requires hard work, quality teaching and dedication. As our students mature into young men and women, ready to face the challenges and realise the opportunities of the 21st century, we strive to develop the skills, knowledge and values that will allow them to choose the right pathway for them as they move into the adult community.

We hope that, by reading this prospectus and attending the open evening, you see Prince William School as your Sixth Form of choice.

**Anna Hewes**  
Headteacher





# Academic achievement

Students at Prince William School and Sixth Form enjoy high quality teaching which enables them to achieve excellent results and progress to their chosen post-18 pathway. Results at Key Stage 5 have improved impressively over recent years, and our students now attain results that consistently put them in the top 25% of students in the country.

	2023	2023 national average	2024	2024 national average
Student numbers	93		91	
A*-A	28%	27%	23%	28%
A*-C	79%	78%	79%	76%
A*-E	99%	97%	99%	97%
Average point score	36	35.3	35.1	
Average grade	B-	B-	B-	
ALPS quality indicator	2		3	

NB: ALPS is graded from 1-9 to show performance against national benchmarks. A score of 3 or above indicates performance within the top 25% of the National benchmark.

# Sixth form life

High standards of conduct are expected from all members of the Sixth Form. As the most senior students in the school, main school students look to the Sixth Form to set the standard. Sixth Form students are required to dress in accordance with our dress code, which reflects expectations employers have of their staff in most business environments. Full details of the dress code can be found on the website.

We also have high expectations for student attendance, at least 95%, because low attendance directly impacts on performance. Attendance is monitored across four categories: single subject, whole curriculum, registration, and punctuality.

The transition from Key Stage 4 to Sixth Form study is significant and, if not approached with the right attitude, can impact upon student progress. One of the biggest changes students will notice is the requirement to work more independently. Students are supported in their journey to become resilient, motivated learners. The Personal Development programme focuses on the VESPA model and encourages students to spend time on Super Curricular tasks in addition to homework. Students are encouraged to be enthusiastic and thoughtful learners with an emphasis on the importance of oracy in the classroom as well as the wider world.

## Private study

When not in lessons, sixth form students are expected to work independently in 'private study'. They may do this in the sixth form study centre, the library or in various areas around the school. Within the sixth form study centre there is a staffed quiet study room as well as smaller seminar style rooms that can be booked by students who need to work collaboratively. Post-16 study requires students to demonstrate their own understanding of a topic and will very often ask them to apply their knowledge in different ways rather than test that which can be memorised or learned by rote.

# Student leadership team

**At Prince William School we have a Sixth Form President and Leadership Team elected by staff and students.**

The student election process aims to develop leadership skills and an understanding of how democratic elections are run.

Candidates for the role of Sixth Form President are expected to produce a manifesto and run an election campaign. On election day staff and students vote for their favourite candidate, the candidate with the most votes becomes Sixth Form President and the runner up becomes Vice President. The President then appoints their leadership team from students who have applied for the following positions:

- Community Lead
- Environment Lead
- Sports Lead
- Social Events Lead

The student leadership team's role in the school is one of role models and leaders for the rest of the school as well as ambassadors for the sixth form in the wider community.



# Enrichment and volunteering opportunities

**In a progressively competitive market for university places and paid employment it is increasingly important that students develop a broad range of attributes, skills, abilities, interests, and achievements.**

This is not only important where applications are concerned but also with a view to ensuring that they are able to achieve and maintain a positive balance between their studies and their extra-curricular pursuits. It is our intention that all students in the Sixth Form will enhance studies by participating in some form of enrichment or extra-curricular opportunity.

Opportunities include:

- Representing the school in a range of sixth form sports teams and competitive activities.
- Contributing to dance, musical or dramatic productions.
- Supporting younger students and peers through a mentoring programme such as Reading Buddies or Peer Mentoring.
- Being part of the Green Car Project
- Organising charity events for local, national, and international causes.
- Completing the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ).
- Completing the Community Sports Leaders Award.



# Pastoral support

**The Sixth Form pastoral support at Prince William School recognises the increasing maturity and independence of our students and the importance of helping them to face the next steps in their lives with confidence.**

The Sixth Form Team is responsible for supporting students beyond the classroom and providing advice and guidance on a range of issues including academic, financial, vocational, and emotional queries. They may not always provide an immediate solution to all queries, but they are normally able to find someone who can and are always able to lend an understanding and impartial ear.

We are an inclusive school and sixth form, passionate about ensuring our lessons meet the needs of all students. Our students who have Special Educational Needs or Disabilities are supported well, with a variety of interventions as befits their specific needs, but primarily benefitting from the key component of excellent SEND provision: High Quality First Teaching.

Student wellbeing is central to all decisions made in the Sixth Form. Skills for life lessons focus on both practical advice for tackling post 18 applications and life skills as well as successfully managing the inevitable pressures of life in the Sixth Form. We encourage students to be ambitious and have a positive mindset. Students are given access to quiet reading and study areas as well as activities such as yoga, dance, and sports to help students understand the synergy between mental and physical wellbeing.

We recognise that the sixth form years are busy, and at times stressful, but we aim to support all students through the processes of becoming independent learners, preparing for exams, and applying for universities, colleges, apprenticeships, or employment.

# Planning for the future

**At Prince William Sixth Form, we prioritise the encouragement and support of students as they apply for higher education placements and apprenticeships. Our mission is to guide and motivate students to achieve their career aspirations, ensuring they are well-prepared for their future endeavours. According to Ofsted's most recent inspection "Leaders encourage and support students in applying for higher education places and apprenticeships. They support and encourage students to achieve their career aspirations."**

Students receive a robust schedule of Information, Advice, and Guidance (IAG) that builds on their experiences from KS3 and KS4. This support is designed to assist them in making informed decisions about their careers, training, and future study pathways. The Team works closely with each student, offering personalised support to align with their individual career aspirations and training needs. We also collaborate with a range of external agencies, boasting a strong track record in helping students secure their first-choice destinations.

## Diverse Post-18 Destinations

Our students choose to progress onto a wide range of post-18 destinations, and our role is to facilitate their journey to the destination of their choice. Whether it's university, apprenticeships, or paid employment, students receive guidance in completing applications to universities, apprenticeships, and employment opportunities, with additional support available to ensure their success.

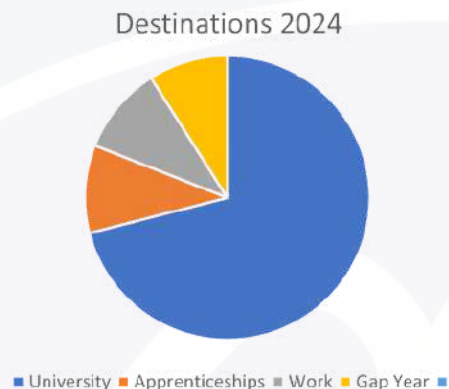
## Careers Fair and Mock Interviews

Students attend a careers fair, featuring representatives from universities, training providers, vocational fields and businesses covering multiple sectors. To further prepare students, we offer one-on-one mock interviews, providing them with valuable practice and feedback.



## Work Experience and Employer References

We recognise the importance of real-world experience in shaping a student's career path. Therefore, students undertake work experience, where they can gain valuable insights and references from employers. This experience not only enhances their resumes but also provides them with practical skills and professional networking opportunities.



## Skills for Life Lessons

Our curriculum includes Skills for Life lessons, which cover essential topics such as student finance, applications and interview practise. There is also specialised Personal Statement support to help students craft compelling narratives for their university applications.

## Apprenticeship Workshops for Students and Parents

Understanding that apprenticeships are a viable and valuable pathway, we deliver an apprenticeship workshop for both students and their parents. These sessions provide comprehensive information on apprenticeship opportunities and the application process, ensuring that families are well-informed and supportive of their child's career choices.

In summary, we are dedicated to supporting students in every aspect of their journey toward higher education and career success. Through personalised guidance, extensive resources, and a comprehensive support system, we ensure that our students are well-equipped to achieve their aspirations.

# Curriculum

**We offer a wide range of A level courses, details of which can be found on pages 13 onwards.**

In addition, we provide a 'Skills for Life' programme that aims to equip students with the skills they need to manage the pressures of sixth form life, exams, and coping with practical matters in the adult world such as money management, healthy relationships, and cooking economic but healthy meals.

We also expect all students to participate in an enrichment activity (as outlined in the 'Enrichment Opportunities' section on p.6 above) and we provide a wealth of extracurricular opportunities in sport, performing arts, and activities such as the Duke of Edinburgh Award.

## Entry requirements

- All students must attain five or more grade 5s (or equivalent) at Key Stage 4 in order to attend the Sixth Form.
- All students will also need to have attained at least a grade 4 in both English (Language or Literature) and Maths.
- Some subjects (Biology, Chemistry, Maths, Physics, English Literature) require students to have attained at least a grade 6 in their subject at Key Stage 4.
- Students may take additional qualifications (e.g the Extended Project Qualification or an additional A level) but all students must study a minimum of three subjects.

# How to apply

**Applications for joining Prince William Sixth Form in September 2025 will open after the Sixth Form Open Evening event on Thursday 14th November 2024 and close on Monday January 13th 2025.**

Applications for the sixth form should be made through the Sixth Form Admissions section of the school website. Students should select subjects according to the option blocks on the website. Only one subject should be selected from each option block. Courses will only run with sufficient student numbers. If you have any questions or problems with the application process, please email [Zoe.Lewis@pws.emat.uk](mailto:Zoe.Lewis@pws.emat.uk) or phone 01832 272881 and ask to speak to Mrs Lewis.

## Offers of places

We aim to inform all applicants, both internal and external, the outcome of their application by the end of March 2025. Offers of places will be conditional on students gaining the necessary grades for the courses they have selected.

Students who have been offered a conditional place in the sixth form will be invited to an Offer Holders Day on Tuesday 1st July 2025. This will give potential students the opportunity to familiarize themselves with the sixth form facilities, take part in some subject taster lessons and enjoy a sixth form social event at the end of the day.

## Enrolment

Both internal and external students who have achieved the required grades for their conditional offer and want to take up their place in the sixth form must complete their enrolment either on KS4 results day (Thursday 21st August 2025) or by 12pm the following day (Friday 22nd of August 2025). This can be done in person or by emailing [Zoe.Lewis@pws.emat.uk](mailto:Zoe.Lewis@pws.emat.uk). External candidates must also hand in or email a copy of their results when accepting their place. Places not accepted by the deadline of 12pm on Friday 22nd of August 2025 will automatically be offered to applicants on the waiting list.

# BIOLOGY A LEVEL

*Our students said:*

“Biology is brilliant as you dive deeper into how living organisms work and function. It is really interesting and the teaching is the best!”

**Biology is the window into the fascinating world of living organisms and the science of life. Biology covers anatomy and physiology of the human body, alongside vital issues of the Twentieth Century, including how different species interact, the importance of conservation, DNA and gene technologies, and stem cell research.**

In lessons students are required to carry out a number of practical tasks, both in groups and independently. Students will need to reflect on their own work and evaluate others, being prepared to articulate results and conclusions.

Prior reading is mandatory before each lesson. Extended reading and annotations of notes is also expected on top of regular homework and students are required to regularly assess their learning against the specification.

Further interest in Biology is generated by extracurricular events, which may include visits to zoos, biotechnology research laboratories, and the Biology Olympiad. Equally, students can extend their biological knowledge through biological lectures/talks from people with a variety of professional biology backgrounds.

## POSSIBLE PATHWAYS

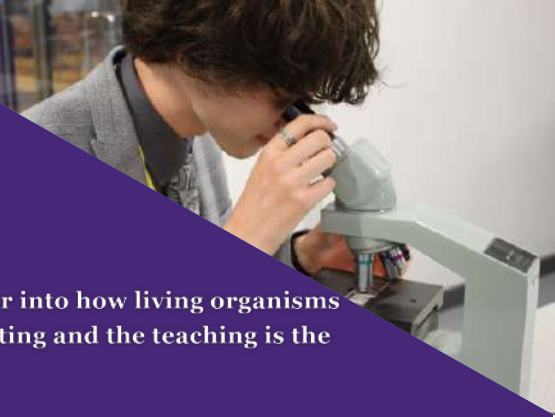
**Good combinations of other subjects to study with Biology are:**

Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics, Geography, Psychology.

**Studying Biology at A Level can lead to careers such as:**

Medicine, Veterinary Science, Dentistry, Physiology, Ecology, Pharmacology, Immunology, Biochemistry, Environmental Science, Molecular Biology, Microbiology, Marine Biology, Sport Science, Genetic Engineering, and Biotechnology.

**ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: MINIMUM GRADE 6 IN GCSE SCIENCE**



# BUSINESS STUDIES A LEVEL

*Our students said:*

“My favourite aspect of it is being able to understand how a real business operates, and presenting it to my class. I like being able to learn about the marketing mix, which also ties in with my other subjects.”

**A Level Business Studies is an enjoyable and rewarding course suitable for students who have lively and enquiring minds and a willingness to explore new ideas.**

The course aims to provide knowledge and understanding of business activity and also to develop useful skills for higher education or employment. The course focuses on the dynamic nature of contemporary business, provides the opportunity to research into topical business issues, explores real business situations and the practical application of business concepts, and looks at the role of entrepreneurs in society.

## POSSIBLE PATHWAYS

**Good combinations of other subject to study with Business Studies are:** ICT, Psychology, Mathematics and a Language.

**Studying Business Studies at A Level can lead to careers such as:** Marketing, Management, Finance, HR, Accounting and Law. It also can provide you with the skills to apply to many university courses in both business and other areas separate from business.

Students will learn about the nature and purpose of business, the different types of ownership, and the external environment that businesses operate in. There are various opportunities for students to explore aspects of the business environment from attending conferences and visiting organisations within the UK, and potentially in other countries inside and outside of the EU.

Previous visits have included ones to Jaguar Land Rover to look at production and manufacturing, Coca Cola to look at their production, and Alton Towers to have an insight into their marketing. Previous residential visits have included New York and Rome.

# CHEMISTRY A LEVEL

*Our students said:*

“I have really enjoyed learning mechanisms as part of A-level Chemistry, they give a really detailed understanding of how things actually work.”

**An understanding of chemistry and chemical processes underpins all that we do. It allows us to explain everything from the composition of stars to the processes of life, touching on a myriad of everyday items such as your mobile phone battery, preventing corrosion in your car, and making the next great breakthrough in drug discovery.**

We currently follow the OCR A course which follows on equally well from both Combined Science or Separate Science GCSE courses.

This involves three papers: Fundamentals of Chemistry, Scientific Literacy in Chemistry and Practical Skills in Chemistry. There is a number of set practicals that all students must undertake through the course.

Further interest in Chemistry is generated by extracurricular events, such as participation in the Chemistry Olympiad and visits to Chemistry Lectures as the opportunity arises.

## POSSIBLE PATHWAYS

**Good combinations of other subjects to study with Chemistry are:** Biology, Physics, Mathematics, Geography, Psychology.

**Studying Chemistry at A Level can lead to careers such as:** Medicine, Veterinary Science, Dentistry, Chemical Research, Pharmacy, Chemical Engineering, Chemistry Teaching, and Environmental Sciences.

**ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:** MINIMUM GRADE 6 IN GCSE SCIENCE



# COMPUTER SCIENCE A LEVEL



*Our students said:*

"I have enjoyed getting a deeper understanding of the inner workings of the computer processors that I use every day."

**This course is relevant to the modern and changing world of computing. It is a practical subject where learners can apply the academic principles learned in the classroom to real world systems. It is an intensely creative subject that combines invention and excitement and you will develop an ability to analyse, critically evaluate, and make decisions.**

You will develop an understanding of and ability to apply the fundamental principles and concepts of computer science including abstraction, decomposition, logic, algorithms, and data representation.

It will give you the ability to analyse problems in computational terms through practical

## POSSIBLE PATHWAYS

**Good combinations of other subject to study with Computer Science are:**

Art, Mathematics, Further Maths, Business Studies, Psychology, Physics.

**Study of Computer Science at A level can lead to careers such as:**

Data Analyst, Games Designer, Network Manager and Software Engineer.

experience of solving such problems including writing programs to do so.

You will learn about the fundamentals of the theory of computation, programming, data structures, and a systematic approach to problem solving and data representation. You also learn about computer systems, including software (e.g. classification, system and OS) and hardware (e.g. organisation and architecture, internal components including the CPU and storage devices) and computer networks.

This is a very demanding course which will require a keen interest in the subject and a willingness to explore the fundamental principles and concepts of computer science. GCSE Computer Science is not a prerequisite but is an enormous advantage, as are good maths skills.

# CRIMINOLOGY LEVEL 3 DIPLOMA



*Our students said:*

"It is a brilliant subject if you want to go into a job like policing because it gives you a full understanding of the criminal justice system and why people commit crimes"

**How do we decide what behaviour is criminal? How do we explain why people commit crime? What makes someone a serial killer or abusive to their families? These are all questions you will explore on this course.**

With a focus on applied learning, you will gain the understanding to evaluate the impact of criminological theories on policy making. This qualification combines controlled assessments and external exams, allowing you to develop a range of valuable skills while exploring intriguing topics.

During the course you will explore how criminality is defined over time and between cultures. You will study biological, sociological and individualistic theories of why crime happens and apply them to real life scenarios as well as media representations of criminals and campaigns to elicit change.

You will track criminal processes from crime scene to courtroom and look at the personnel involved in criminal investigations and the techniques that are used, including forensics, offender profiling and surveillance. You will study the criminal justice system and using different forms of punishment to tackle crime.

## POSSIBLE PATHWAYS

**Good combinations of other subject to study with Criminology are:**

Sociology, Psychology, History, Geography, Philosophy, Ethics

The main purpose of the qualification is to support access to Higher Education degree courses, such as Criminology, Criminology and Criminal Justice, Psychology and Sociology, and Criminology with Law. Alternatively, the qualification allows students to gain the required understanding and skills to be able to consider employment within some aspects of the criminal justice system, e.g. The National Probation Service, the Courts and Tribunals Service or the National Offender Management Service.

# DANCE A LEVEL

*Our students said:*

“Ever since I started dance at Prince William School it has become a burning passion of mine. I find the course exciting and challenging, it has definitely prepared me for my future study at University.”

## **The study of dance enables students to develop socially whilst promoting creativity, fitness, and well-being.**

As students become performers, they will also develop their confidence, self-esteem, and team working skills.

Students will study the significance of dance in their own work and in professional repertoire. The course is split into two components:

Performance/Choreography and Critical Engagement. All aspects of A Level Dance are taught through both practical and theoretical lessons.

The practical element focuses on the art of choreography as a soloist and as a group creating their own dances in response to stimuli. Students will explore a range of styles, techniques and rehearsal methods to develop

### **POSSIBLE PATHWAYS**

#### **Good combinations of other subjects to study with Dance are:**

Drama, Art, English, PE, Biology, Music, History, Sociology, Health & social, Design/Textiles

#### **Studying Dance at A Level can lead to careers such as:**

Performing, Choreographing, Teaching, Journalism, Health/social work, Therapy, Theatre Management, Designer (fashion, set, lighting)

as a performer expanding their physical, technical and interpretive skills, and safe practice, whilst also discovering their own way of moving and choreographing.

The theory delves into the historical, social, cultural and economic factors of how British dance has evolved, exploring established practitioners and their professional repertoire. In addition to the study of movement, we also critically analyse and explore the use of costume, set, lighting and accompaniment of performances.

Throughout the year we run a variety of theatre, dance performance, and exhibition trips as well as advising students of performances to see in the local area. Students are given the opportunity to contribute to lower school dance clubs and whole school performances as well as platforms to perform and showcase their work.

# DRAMA A LEVEL

*Our students said:*

“It gives me a feeling of exhilaration and excitement. You can express yourself and let yourself go. Disappear into your own world.”

## **Drama and Theatre Studies inspire students to become independent theatre makers with the skills they need to go on to higher education, whether that is to study a course in drama and theatre or another subject.**

This qualification emphasises practical creativity alongside research and theoretical understanding. Students learn through experience, seeing theatre and making theatre for themselves. Students are introduced to a wide range of theatrical styles and contexts as they explore plays practically, and devise and work on performances.

Throughout the year, we will run a variety of theatre performance and exhibition trips as well as advising students of performances to see in the local area.

Students are given the opportunity to contribute to lower school dance clubs and whole school performances as well as platforms to perform and showcase their work.

### **POSSIBLE PATHWAYS**

#### **Good combinations of other subjects to study with Drama are:**

Dance, Art, English, PE, Biology, Music

#### **Studying Drama at A Level can lead to careers such as:**

Drama, Art, English, Design Technology



# ECONOMICS A LEVEL

*Our students said*

“Economics is a fascinating subject where you learn about how the economy works and its influence, and to recognise patterns in price and quantity.”



**Economics at Prince William School provides learners with a combination of microeconomic and macroeconomic content that will develop an understanding of economic concepts and theories through a critical consideration of current economic issues, problems, and institutions that affect everyday life.**

Students have the opportunity to apply economic theories using a range of contexts to appreciate their value and limitations in explaining real world phenomena. The subject content has been grouped into three broad areas of study: Microeconomics, Macroeconomics, and Trade and Development.

Students will learn about the economic behaviour of consumers, producers, and governments in competitive and non-competitive markets and also the ways in which governments need to act to control the behaviour of firms.

Students will also develop an understanding of macroeconomic issues and an awareness of the context of economic ideas in local, national, and global terms. They will also learn why countries trade and the importance of globalisation to trade and development as well as the obstacles and solutions for sustainable economic development.

## POSSIBLE PATHWAYS

**Good combinations of other subjects to study with Economics are:**

Mathematics, Geography, History, Languages

**Studying Economics at A Level can lead to careers such as:**

Accountancy, stockbroker, banker, and online financial and business-related careers

# ENGLISH LANGUAGE & LITERATURE A LEVEL

*Our students said:*

“I didn’t realise how much this subject would help me in my other options”



**The English Language and Literature course is designed to suit students who are both passionate about reading and literature with strong analytical skills, as well as being scientific, creative, and imaginative.**

Over the two years of the course, the areas of study and investigation are based on literary and non-literary analysis, with set novels, plays, and poetry. It also allows studies that promote creativity and research into how language is used. There is a considerable amount of freedom to study and write in genres which suit one’s own academic development and progress to an extent not experienced in GCSE language work.

We place strong emphasis on academic learning beyond the classroom and the prescribed specifications. We expect Sixth Form students to work independently and to take full advantage of the resources that the Library and academic faculties provide.

The extra-curricular life of Prince William School is varied, from theatre productions to visits from authors and university visits. All pupils are expected to play a full and active part in the extra-curricular life of the School. Additionally, the school offers opportunities for students to act as learning mentors for Reading and Literacy with younger students.

## POSSIBLE PATHWAYS

**Good combinations of other subject to study with English are:**

History, Religious Education, Art, Psychology, French/Spanish.

**Study of English at A level can lead to careers such as:**

Digital Copywriter; Editorial Assistant; English as a Foreign Language Teacher; Lexicographer; Magazine Journalist; Newspaper Journalist; Teacher; Writer; Academic Librarian; Advertising Account Executive; Advertising Copywriter; Arts Administrator; Information Officer; Marketing Executive; Public Relations Officer; Records Manager.

**ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:** MINIMUM GRADE 5 IN GCSE ENG LANG/LIT

# ENGLISH LITERATURE A LEVEL



*Our students said:*

"I really enjoy English Literature, it fits in well with my other subjects that I study and encourages me to think in an analytical way."

**The English Literature course offers students many different learning styles and opportunities to engage with Literature in a very wide variety of contexts, helping them to develop skills in interpretation and analysis through the reading, observation, and discussion of texts.**

The gradual acquisition of experience, and of literary and linguistic awareness through independent study, is the process which creates a strong A Level candidate.

We place strong emphasis on academic learning beyond the classroom and the prescribed specifications. We expect Sixth Form students to work independently and to take full advantage of the resources that the Library and academic faculty's provide. The extra-curricular life of Prince William School is varied, from theatre productions to visits from authors and university visits.

All pupils are expected to play a full and active part in the extra-curricular life of the school.

Additionally, the school offers opportunities for students to act as learning mentors for Reading and Literacy with younger students.

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**Good combinations of other subject to study with English are:**

History, Religious Education, Art, Psychology, French/Spanish.

**Study of English at A Level can lead to careers such as:**

Digital Copywriter; Editorial Assistant; English as a Foreign Language Teacher; Lexicographer; Magazine Journalist; Newspaper Journalist; Primary School Teacher; Secondary School Teacher; Writer; Academic Librarian; Advertising Account Executive; Advertising Copywriter; Arts Administrator; Information Officer; Marketing Executive; Public Relations Officer; Records Manager.

**ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:** MINIMUM GRADE 6 IN GCSE ENG LIT

# EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION (EPQ)



**The Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) is a standalone qualification designed to extend and develop students' skills in independent research and project management.**

It is awarded UCAS points worth half an A Level and is recognised by universities and employers.

The Extended Project will develop and extend from one or more study areas and/or from an area of personal interest or activity outside of the main programme of study. It will be based on a topic chosen by the student and agreed as appropriate by the centre.

Project supervisors will meet with students weekly to review progress, provide guidance, deliver the taught skills element, and facilitate discussion.

Students can choose any topic of study providing that it is academically rigorous and does not constitute dual accreditation in that it must serve as an extension to the taught curriculum in studied subjects.

The individual nature of the EPQ does not lend itself well to subject-based visits or trips but students are encouraged to seek opportunities to extend their learning. Recent examples include visits to historical sites, interviews with published authors and field visits to conduct scientific research.

## POSSIBLE PATHWAYS

- They will learn to become critical, reflective learners and will apply decision making and problem-solving skills.
- They will increase their ability to plan, research, and analyse, synthesise, and evaluate their own work.
- They will learn to confidently apply new technologies, develop their presentation skills, and demonstrate creativity, initiative, and enterprise in the pursuit of excellent grades.



# FINE ART A LEVEL

*Our students said:*

**“Studying Art at A Level has allowed me to broaden my horizons in terms of creativity and has also encouraged me to develop a personal style and approach which can sustain me through A2 Level.”**

**The Fine Art course is designed to equip students with a range of subject specific and transferable skills, providing a platform to inspire a lifelong interest in and enjoyment of Art.**

It develops technical and practical understanding and the ability to apply this to using a range of different media. The course is also valuable in refining visual literacy skills, contextual understanding, the ability to follow the creative process, exploration, experimentation, and providing the opportunity to produce personal and meaningful pieces of art.

## POSSIBLE PATHWAYS

**Good combinations of other subjects to study with Fine Art are:**

Chemistry, Dance, Drama and Theatre Studies, English, History, Mathematics, Music, Psychology, Religious Studies and Sociology.

**Study of Art at A level can lead to careers such as:**

Students can train to become an Art Teacher, Graphic Designer, Architect, Fine Artist, Textiles, Fashion or Costume designer, Interior Designer, Make-up Artist, or Set Designer for TV, Film or Theatre. Students normally take a one-year Foundation course (BTEC) after A Level to prepare for Degree Level courses, however, not all Higher Education Arts Courses have this requirement.

# FOOD SCIENCE AND NUTRITION LEVEL 3

**Level 3 Food Science and Nutrition offers exciting and interesting experiences through applied learning, i.e. through the acquisition of knowledge and understanding in purposeful contexts linked to the food production industry.**

The course is over two years, with a Certificate awarded in year 1 and the full Diploma (equivalent to an A level) on completion of the course.

An understanding of food science and nutrition is relevant to many industries and job roles.

Doctors, nutritionists, care workers, chefs, and food technologists use this knowledge, as do sports coaches and fitness instructors.

Hotels and restaurant managers, food manufacturers, and government agencies require the knowledge and understanding to develop menus, food products and policies that support healthy eating initiatives.

## POSSIBLE PATHWAYS

Together with relevant Level 3 qualifications such as A Levels in Biology, Chemistry, Sociology and Mathematics, students will gain the required knowledge to progress to degree courses, such as:

- BSc Food and Nutrition BSc Human Nutrition
- BSc (Hons) Public Health Nutrition
- BSc (Hons) Food Science and Technology

# FRENCH A LEVEL

*Our students said:*

"I enjoy my French classes and feel that my teachers are very supportive and want me to achieve my very best."

**As a highly regarded facilitating subject, French is undoubtedly a challenging but thoroughly enjoyable and rewarding A Level subject.**

The course is a natural evolution from your GCSE as you will continue to work on the same four key skills (listening, speaking, reading, and writing) as well as translation into and out of French.

You will study many interesting aspects of French-speaking society and the French-speaking world, including social and political change, diversity and the benefits and challenges it brings, highlights of artistic culture, and the Occupation and Resistance. You will also have the opportunity to explore renowned French literature and film.

## POSSIBLE PATHWAYS

**Good combinations of other subjects to study with French are:**

English, History, Business Studies, Mathematics, Science

**Studying French at A Level can lead to careers such as:**

Interpreter, Translator, Law, Journalism, Tourism, Engineering, Central Government (the Foreign office, Ministry of Defence, MI5 and MI6), Marketing, Retail, Event Management, the Voluntary and Charitable Sector, sporting organisations, education and more.

Students will be able to act as mentors for younger students of French.

Unfortunately, due to the smaller class sizes of Sixth Form Languages, it is not cost efficient to offer Sixth Form trips to the target language countries.

However, there are many travel companies offering opportunities such as work experience and home stay visits, which you could take part in independently during school holidays.

We may also have theatre/film trips to view francophone productions when appropriate or be invited to join relevant talks by the Languages Department at Oundle School, with whom we have a good relationship.

# FURTHER MATHEMATICS A LEVEL

**GCE A Level in Further Mathematics is a course worth studying not only as a supporting subject for the physical and social sciences, but in its own right.**

Students taking Further Mathematics overwhelmingly find it to be an enjoyable, rewarding, stimulating, and empowering experience. It is a challenging qualification, which both extends and deepens your knowledge and understanding beyond the standard A Level Mathematics. Students who do it often say it is their favourite subject.

It provides a chance to explore new and/or more sophisticated concepts and further applications of mathematics in mechanics, statistics, and decision mathematics.

## POSSIBLE PATHWAYS

**Good combinations of other subjects to study with Further Mathematics are:**

Mathematics, Computer Studies, Economics, Physics, Biology, Chemistry

**Studying Further Mathematics at A Level can lead to careers such as:**

Architecture, Medicine, Accountancy, Lecturer, Teaching, Physics, Computing, Information and Communication Technology

**ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:** MINIMUM GRADE 7 IN GCSE MATHS

Studying Further Mathematics consolidates and reinforces your standard A Level Mathematics work, helping you to achieve your best possible grades.

If you are planning to take a degree such as Engineering, Sciences, Computing, Finance/Economics, etc or perhaps Mathematics itself, you will benefit enormously from taking Further Mathematics, at least to AS level. AS Further Mathematics introduces new topics such as matrices and complex numbers that are vital in many STEM degrees. Students who have studied Further Mathematics find the transition to such degrees far more straightforward.



# GEOGRAPHY A LEVEL



*Our students said:*

“It opens up the world. It encourages me to engage with issues like terrorism and conflict as well as allowing me to understand things I see daily like weather. It also builds up my confidence and enthusiasm.”

**This course will allow you to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of places, environments, concepts, processes, interactions, and change at a variety of scales.**

You will need to apply knowledge and understanding in different contexts to interpret, analyse and evaluate geographical information and issues. There will be an area of individual investigative fieldwork and this will be written up as a non-examined piece.

Students will study a range of topics as varied as Carbon and Water Cycles, Disease and Dilemmas, and Human Rights, although all areas will include elements of skills whatever the taught content.

Field work visits in the UK to rivers, coastline and cities are all compulsory parts of the course.

We also aim to run a trip to Iceland / Cern every other year.

## POSSIBLE PATHWAYS

**Good combinations of other subjects to study with Geography are:**

Biology, Chemistry, Sociology, Mathematics, History, RE, English, Business/Economics, Politics

**Studying Geography at A Level can lead to careers such as:**

TV Researchers, Heritage Site Managers, Expedition Leaders, Architectural and Urban Planners, Environmental Engineers/Consultants, Finance Risk Assessors, Law, Human Rights, Hazard Prediction And Prevention Officers, Locations Analyst.

# GRAPHICS A LEVEL



**Graphic communication will give you the skills to produce personal creative work and develop your understanding of graphic design.**

You will develop your knowledge of materials and techniques, and the skills to communicate ideas and information visually. It will help you to develop an effective personal visual language and develop your understanding of historical and contemporary influences on design.

Graphic communication opens the door to a large number of fascinating and rewarding specialisms and careers in industry, commerce and the media.

Students will gain a real understanding of what it means to be a designer, alongside the knowledge and skills sought by higher education and employers.

## POSSIBLE PATHWAYS

**Good combinations of other subjects to study with Graphics are:**

Business Studies, Computer Science, Dance, Fine Art, Product Design, Sociology

**Studying Graphics at A Level can lead to careers such as:** Advertising, Animator, Designer for film and television, Exhibition designer, Graphic designer, Illustrator, Marketing, Interior and spatial design, Publishing, Production designer, Scientific or medical illustrator, Studio manager, Teacher, Typographer, Web and app designer

**ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:** STUDENTS MUST HAVE STUDIED DESIGN AT GCSE

# HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE LEVEL 3 BTEC

*Our students said:*

“Health and social care is great because we look at how we can apply the theories we learn to real world careers in the health and social sector.”

**This course is for learners who are interested in learning about the health and social care sector as part of a balanced study programme.**

The course aims to develop your knowledge and understanding of patterns of human growth and development. It also looks at what it is like to work in the health and social care sector and focuses on the values and principles of meeting care and support needs and look at some of the ethical issues that arise when personalising care.

The course also looks at the signs and symptoms of physiological disorders and how they are investigated and diagnosed. We also focus on the different types of treatment and support available for individual service users, including surgery, rehabilitation and complementary therapies.

Learners are also encouraged to spend some time working in a care-type environment, such as in a SEND department in a school, a nursery or a nursing home.

## POSSIBLE PATHWAYS

It is generally taken alongside other qualifications as part of a two-year programme of learning enabling learners to progress to a degree programme from the health and social care sector. The qualification is intended to carry UCAS points and is recognised by higher education institutions as contributing to meeting admission requirements.

For example it can be taken alongside:

- A Levels in Biology and Psychology, which could lead to a BSc (Hons) in Nursing
- A Levels in English and History, which could lead to a BA (Hons) in Primary Education
- A BTEC National Extended Certificate in Children's Play, Learning and Development, and A level Psychology which could lead to a BSc (Hons) in Social Work
- A BTEC National Extended Certificate in Sport, which could lead to a Foundation Degree in Sports Studies and Development.

# HISTORY A LEVEL

**This course is designed to cover a breadth of time. It allows students to study very different periods, from Early Stuart England to Twentieth Century Europe, and enables them to develop advanced skills in the interpretation and evaluation of historical argument.**

History demands consideration of historical ideas and beliefs and so helps students to understand important political, social, and economic issues in the Modern World.

Students will be encouraged to learn to question the utility of historical evidence and to develop techniques in independent research.

## POSSIBLE PATHWAYS

**Good combinations of other subject to study with History are:**  
Religious Education, Sociology, Psychology, English

**Study of History at A Level can lead to careers such as:**  
Journalism and the Media, Law, Business, Human Resources, Politics

Many professions and courses in further Education regard History very favourably. It is viewed as a subject that is challenging as it demands academic rigour and it is a 'facilitating' subject: the skills of debate, the ability to express and consider differing opinions and arguments, and the ability to evaluate and assess information are all crucial skills.

In the past we have run a variety of trips abroad as well as a trips to the Houses of Parliament.



# MATHEMATICS A LEVEL



*Our students said:*

“The course does not move too fast; ideas are repeatedly applied throughout the course.”

**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 and interesting and builds on work already met at GCSE but also involves new ideas produced by some of the greatest minds of the last millennium.

Students will understand the relationship between problems in context and mathematical models that may be applied to solve them.

They use mathematical knowledge to make logical and reasoned decisions in solving problems both within pure mathematics and in a variety of contexts, and communicate the mathematical rationale for these decisions clearly.

Students will also learn to apply mathematics in other fields of study and be aware of the relevance of mathematics to the world of work and to situations in society in general.

## POSSIBLE PATHWAYS

**Good combinations of other subject to study with Mathematics are:**

Geography, Sociology, Biology, Psychology, Computing, Economics

**Study of Mathematics at A Level can lead to careers such as:**

Architecture, Medicine, Engineering, Accountancy, Teaching, Psychology, Physics and Computing

# MUSIC A LEVEL



*Our students said:*

“It allows you to expand on every aspect of your intellect, from creative to the logical, demanding expression and understanding across the board. ”

**The study of Music at A Level follows the EDUQAS specification – a broad, coherent course that engages learners and allows them to pursue their own musical interests.**

Students experience all three main musical disciplines of performing, composing, and appraising. Learners have the option to specialise in performing or composing.

In order to prepare for classroom learning and the wider practical nature of music, students will be expected to listen to a wide range of music, not only music from the set works; regularly practice and take part in ensemble playing in school and in their own time; and undertake independent background research on composers and specific areas of music.

The Music Department is a very busy, exciting place to study and students will be expected to take part in regular extra-curricular school activities; show Student Leadership in arranging recitals and performances with other students; show a high level of independence.

Students will participate in arranged visits to concert halls, theatres and local music events.

## POSSIBLE PATHWAYS

**Good combinations of other subject to study with Music are:**

Sciences, Geography, Drama and Theatre Studies, Art, English, Languages

**Study of Music at A Level can lead to careers such as:**

Professional Musician, Education, Creating and Marketing Music and Music Technology

# PE A LEVEL

*Our students said:*

"The course allow me to analyse my performance in my chosen sport."

**The A-Level PE course will give full-time learners the opportunity to enter employment in the sport and active leisure sector or to progress to higher education vocational qualifications such as a degree or in sport or related areas.**

Our A-level Physical Education qualification allows students to play to their strengths and gain dynamic theoretical and practical skills for further education or work,

## POSSIBLE PATHWAYS

**Good combinations of other subject to study with Sport are:**

Biology, Psychology, Sociology, Geography, Business Studies

**Study of Sport can lead to careers such as:**

Police, Armed Forces, Physiotherapy, Teaching, Coaching, Management and Outdoor Recreation

The Physical Education department runs a range of inter school fixtures for students to participate in. There will be opportunities to see elite performers through high quality events and games. There are planned trips to revision/ study sessions to augment in school learning.

Alongside the A-Level course the Department runs the Sports Leaders programme which enables students to develop and gain a wide range of practical skills, students will also have the opportunity to complete a first aid qualification.

# PHYSICS A LEVEL

*Our students said:*

"Hard work, but really enjoyable. It's really different from GCSE and much more fun. Physics goes really well with the other Sciences and Design."

**The course enables students to build on their knowledge of the laws of physics, applying their understanding to solve problems on topics ranging from subatomic particles to the entire universe.**

They also have the opportunity to develop all the relevant practical skills.

We have had the opportunity as a Science Department to visit Iceland and see the Northern Lights. We have also been on a trip to CERN and the Large Hadron Collider.

We have a fantastic working relationship with Oundle School which means we have visited their laboratories for joint practical work.

## POSSIBLE PATHWAYS

**Good combinations of other subject to study with Physics are:**

Mathematics, Sciences, Geography, Economics, Computer Science

**Study of Physics at A Level can lead to careers such as:**

Design Engineering, Architecture, Marketing, Automotive Design, Product Design, Graphic Design, Medical Physics, Particle Physics, Geophysics in Archaeology or Climate Models, Astrophysics and Astronomy, Teaching, and working in the Financial Services

**ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: MINIMUM GRADE 6 IN GCSE SCIENCE AND MATHS**

# POLITICS A LEVEL

*Our students said:*

“It helps me understand what is happening in the country right now and how it will affect my future. There is a lot of debate, we get to put our opinions forward and discuss current political issues”

**Studying politics now is probably more exciting than it has ever been. The political world today is changing at a lightning speed, with extremist views dominating on a global scale and its leaders haven't been so polarising in the eyes of the world for nearly a century.**

The first part of the course looks at UK politics with a focus on core political ideas and systems, voting behaviour and core political ideas such as liberalism and socialism. The second part of the course focuses on the UK Government the shifting political map.

## POSSIBLE PATHWAYS

**Good combinations of other subject to study with Politics are:**

History, Sociology, English, Psychology, Criminology, Geography

**Study of Politics at A Level can lead to careers such as:**

Journalism, Law, Media, Business, Human Resources

In the theory section of this course, you will study the development and the ever increasing importance of the feminist movements #timesup and #metoo. The third area of study is Global Politics, including the politics of the United States, to help broaden your understanding of current issues.

As part of the course students can take part in a trip to the Houses of Parliament, join the House of Lords live, and have opportunities to listen to speakers both inside and outside of school and at school conferences. There may also be an opportunity to work with Tom Pursglove MP in Parliament for work experience.

# PRODUCT DESIGN A LEVEL

*Our students said:*

“The opportunity to use advanced 3D, CAD, and 3D printing has been really fun. The chance to explore and design our own product design ideas.”

**This creative and thought-provoking qualification gives students the practical skills, theoretical knowledge, and confidence to succeed in a number of careers, especially those in the creative industries.**

They will investigate historical, social, cultural, environmental, and economic influences on design and technology, whilst enjoying opportunities to put their learning in to practice by producing products of their choice.

Students will gain a real understanding of what it means to be a designer, alongside the knowledge and skills sought by higher education and employers. A qualification in Product Design can create pathways in a vast number of creative industries. Students learn critical skills and produce a detailed portfolio.

After school and lunch-time clubs will be available to enable students to learn and explore skills that can be used to enhance and extend their learning.

## POSSIBLE PATHWAYS

**Good combinations of other subject to study with Product Design are:**

Art, Computer Science, Business Studies, English

**Study of Product Design at A Level can lead to careers such as:**

Architecture, Interior Architecture, Interior Design, Product Design, Graphic Design, Branding, Web Design, App Designer, Furniture Design



# PSYCHOLOGY A LEVEL



*Our students said:*

“Learning about the processes involved in social change are really interesting, especially as it is contemporary and relevant to today.”

**Psychology is the scientific study of the mind and behaviour. It is a very good choice for those who are interested in people and their motivation behind different behaviours.**

Students with an inquisitive mind enjoy the challenge of this new and unfamiliar subject. Once you begin to study Psychology, your outlook on almost everything changes, becoming more analytical. Students will start to see Psychology in action everywhere they look and learn about theories that they can relate to their own lives, giving them valuable insight.

## POSSIBLE PATHWAYS

**Good combinations of other subject to study with Psychology are:**

Biology, Sociology, English, Religious Studies, Mathematics, Physical Education, Health & Social Care.

**Study of Psychology at A Level can lead to careers such as:**

Market Research, Human Resources, Social Work, Teaching, Nursing, Advertising, Sales, Media and Broadcasting, Personnel Management, Police and the Armed Forces.

Psychology develops oral, visual and written communication, problem solving, numeracy and statistical skills, critical and creative thinking, decision making, organisational skills, team working, IT skills, and data analysis skills.

Opportunities to stretch and challenge students are available through the course websites and independent learning tasks. There may be opportunities to attend a student revision conference before the examination.

# RELIGION, PHILOSOPHY & ETHICS A LEVEL



*Our students said:*

“A first class subject, encouraging you to not take things on face value but rather question and achieve a greater depth of understanding”

**This course develops skills of interpretation and analysis. It equips students to be independent thinkers and to be strong in powers of persuasion.**

It encourages open mindedness while examining critically, various religious, philosophical, and ethical belief systems. It will develop essay writing skills and the ability to evaluate issues and develop critical awareness of personal points of view. This course will increase awareness of the beliefs and issues that affect our society today as well as considering on-going controversial issues.

Visits are arranged to hear lectures from relevant scholars according to availability and relevance to the course.

Due to the nature of this qualification, it can be applied to any university course or career because it develops skills that are valuable and can be applied in many areas.

## POSSIBLE PATHWAYS

**Good combinations of other subject to study with Religious Studies are:**

History, Geography, Sociology, Psychology, Politics, English, Biology, Business Studies.

**Study of Religion, Philosophy and Ethics at A Level can lead to careers such as:**

Law, Journalism, Teaching, Media, Social Work, Community Work. The ethics part of the course will sit well with Advanced Level Biology and will be of value for those thinking of going into medicine

# SOCIOLOGY A LEVEL



*Our students said:*

"I loved Sociology and found it really useful in understanding the society around me and what's going on in the world. I'm even considering doing it at Uni next year!"

**The sociologist's aim is to understand and explain how societies work and why they change.**

Sociology is the study of human societies and of human behaviour in social settings. It uses social categories (such as class, gender, age, or ethnicity), and various social institutions (such as family, the media, education, politics, or crime) to look at how humans interact with each other.

The A Level course aims to develop skills such as critical thinking, analysis, and essay writing.

## POSSIBLE PATHWAYS

**Good combinations of other subject to study with Sociology are:**

History, English, Psychology, Religious Studies, Geography, Politics.

**Study of Sociology at A Level can lead to careers such as:**

Community Worker, Housing Manager, Health Care Worker, International Development Worker, Journalist, Lecturer, Market Researcher, Personnel Manager, Police Constable, Prison Governor, Probation Officer, Public Sector Administrator, Social Researcher, Social Worker, Teacher, Welfare Advice Worker.

Opportunities to stretch and challenge students are available. There may be opportunities to attend a variety of external visits such as a trip to the Old Bailey and various student grade booster workshops.

# SPANISH A LEVEL



*Our students said:*

"By going over the basics of everything, I feel like we know Spanish so much better and I felt confident speaking it when I went to Spain."

**As a highly regarded facilitating subject, Spanish is undoubtedly a challenging but thoroughly enjoyable and rewarding A Level subject.**

The course is a natural evolution from your GCSE as you will continue to work on the same four key skills (listening, speaking, reading, and writing) as well as translation into and out of Spanish. You will study many interesting aspects of Spanish-speaking society and the Hispanic world, including technological and social change, diversity and the benefits and challenges it brings, highlights of artistic culture, and political life.

There are also opportunities to explore theatre and film in the Spanish-speaking world. The full A Level course allows also for independent research in an area of your choice.

Students will be able to act as mentors for younger students of Spanish.

We may also have theatre/film trips to view Hispanic productions or be invited to join relevant talks by the Modern Foreign Languages Department at Oundle School, with whom we have a good relationship.

## POSSIBLE PATHWAYS

**Good combinations of other subject to study with Spanish are:**

English, History, Business Studies, Mathematics, Science, Law.

**Study of Spanish at A Level can lead to careers such as:**

Interpreter, Translator, Law, Journalism, Tourism, Engineering, Central Government (the Foreign office, Ministry of Defence, MI5 and MI6), Marketing, Retail, Event Management, the Voluntary and Charitable Sector, sporting organisations, education and many more.



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