



# Pre-A Level Development Year



Ages 15 to 17  
One Year GCSE Programme



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Education is about more than just a number of academic lessons delivered in the classroom and instead involves a school being concerned about the development of the whole person.

Now, as always, a boy or girl’s time at Wycliffe must be an ‘experience’ in itself – something to be enjoyed and valued for its own intrinsic value and not just a means to an end of walking away with some exam results.

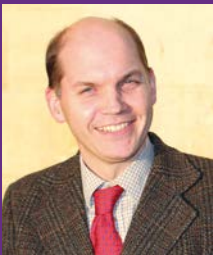
Lastly and, perhaps most importantly, our pupils will benefit enormously from being around each other, often without realising it. Our community is diverse, positive, inclusive and forward-looking. The friends that boys and girls make will enrich their educational and social lives not just here and now but will also be amongst their friends for life for the future.

Mr Nick Gregory  
Headmaster of Wycliffe

Write your own story...



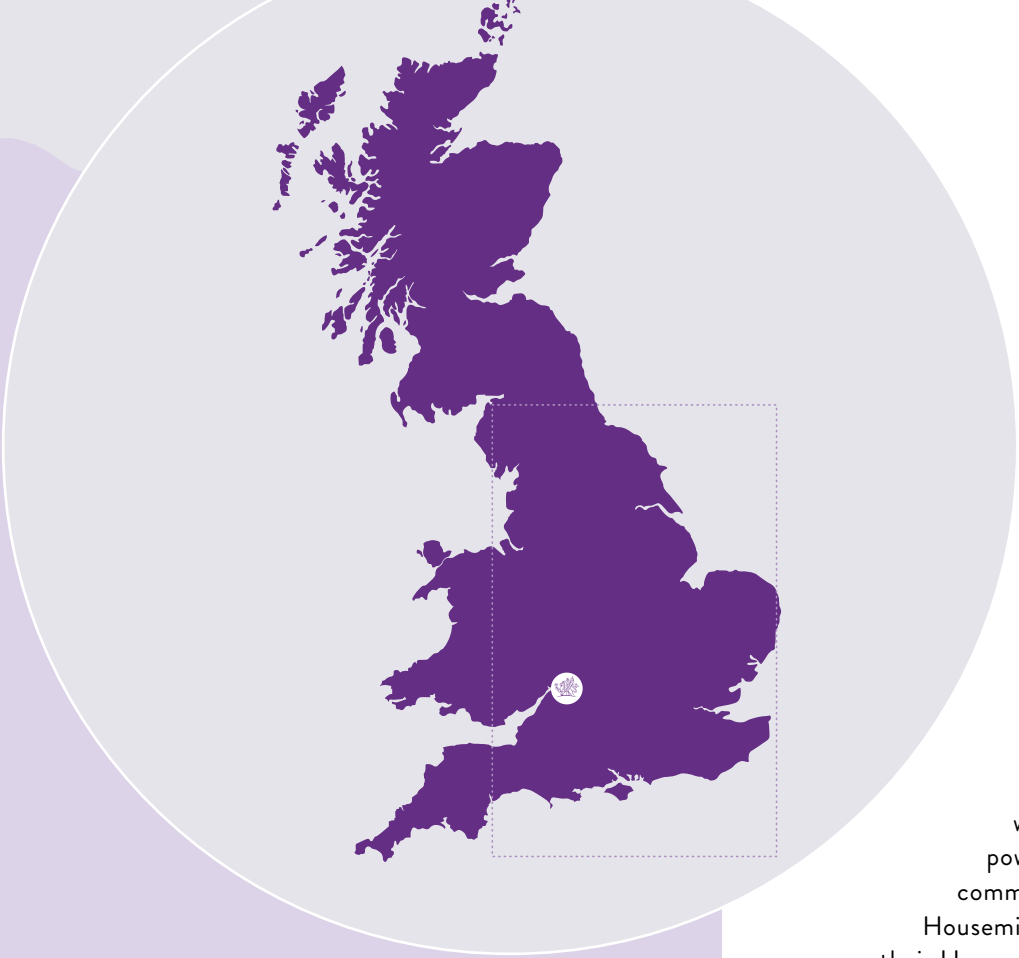
# Life at Wycliffe



Why is the Pre A Level Development Year (DY) so highly regarded? One of the very best elements of this one year GCSE programme is that pupils are totally integrated into the extra-curricular and pastoral life of the whole community. Pupils are not separated into a standalone international section but instead are in boarding houses and undertaking activities such as Sport, Music, Drama and the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme with pupils from across the School. We have been running the Development Year programme for nearly 20 years and each year most of our pupils go onto our Sixth Form to take A Levels or BTECs. The one year courses enables pupils to improve their English, integrate into English culture and take five or six GCSEs – all in one year.

Will Day-Lewis  
Head of the Development Year  
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## Where is Wycliffe?



Your House is your home during your life at Wycliffe. The House system provides every pupil, whether a boarder or a day pupil, a place to call their own at School and where they can work and socialise.

Wycliffe's approach to pastoral care is holistic and revolves around our House system, which fosters an immensely powerful and strong sense of community. The Housemaster or Housemistress cares for the pupils in their Houses and are a constant thread through their life at Wycliffe. Tutors, the onsite Medical Staff, the School Chaplain and the Deputy Head Pastoral are always there if you need them. Matron is the main presence in the Houses during the day. She is always on hand to welcome you into the House at break times, lunch time and the start and end of the day.

We like to think that it would be hard for a pupil not to find someone he or she finds it easy to talk to, and the relationship with their Housemaster or Housemistress is a particularly significant one.

We have eight Houses and each has its own character and celebrates the diversity of its residents. There is a strong sense of family with Seniors supporting and "buddying" younger pupils. That feeling of belonging and embracing diversity is evident in all the House Competitions, whether it is House Song or Quiz Night. Development Year pupils integrate fully in the Houses.

## Our Houses

**HAYWARDSEND:** This beautiful 18th Century building is home to 39 girls both day and boarders from across all year groups.

**HAYWARDSFIELD:** It is Wycliffe's oldest boarding house; situated at the heart of the campus and is home to 58 boys.

**IVY GROVE:** Situated in the new Ward's-Ivy Grove building, which opened in 2017, and is home 38 girls.

**LAMPETER:** It is the best of both worlds – a beautiful Victorian building significantly extended in 2012. It is home to 43 girls.

**ROBINSON:** The 70 boys enjoy the best views of the cricket on the sports field and are housed in a modern boarding house.

**WARD'S:** Home to 49 boys Ward's is located within the brand new Ward's-Ivy Grove building, opened in 2017.

**LOOSLEY HALLS:** A Sixth Form-only House, and pupils in the Development Year can transfer to Loosley Halls in Year 12. Loosley Halls is home to about 60 boys and girls in three separate houses.

**COLLINGWOOD:** It is home to 57 day pupils from Years 9-11 where they have their own desk, cupboard and shelf space.

# Extra-curricular Life

The Wycliffe experience is more than what happens in the classroom. We nurture mind, body and soul through our diverse extra-curricular programme. Embracing the eccentric is the norm at Wycliffe where we offer a wide range of clubs from the traditional skills such as Beekeeping and War Gaming to the 21st Century ones of Cryptology and Green Car Racing. Getting involved in extra-curricular activities is considered important not least because universities and future employers want people who have broad skills and experiences which are not purely academic. With more than 60 activities running every week of the year you have the opportunity to stretch that pioneering spirit and try something you may never have considered before.

Your choices are organised with your tutor who will monitor your attendance and progress. There is a lot on offer and you should be able to find something that you enjoy and find rewarding.

## The following activities are offered (but are subject to change):

- |                        |                             |                                      |                          |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| • Airineers            | • Cryptology                | • Orchestra                          | • Supervised Fitness     |
| • Art                  | • Debating                  | • Philosophy for Life                | • Swimming               |
| • Astronomy            | • Design Technology         | • Photography                        | • Table Tennis           |
| • Base Challenge       | • Duke of Edinburgh's Award | • Pottery                            | • Ten Tors Expedition    |
| • Bee-keeping          | • Fiction Addiction         | • Raspberry Pi                       | • Theatre Trips          |
| • Brass Groups         | • Film Appreciation         | • Robotics                           | • War Gaming             |
| • Ceramics             | • Gardening                 | • Running                            | • Wind Groups            |
| • Cookery              | • Electric Car Racing       | • Science                            | • Wycliffe Youth Theatre |
| • Charities Committee  | • Investment Club           | • Scrabble                           | • VOX                    |
| • Choir                | • Italian                   | • Service Activities Shooting (.22)  | • Voluntary work         |
| • Chess                | • Jazz Combo                | • Sewing                             | • Young Dragons          |
| • Chinese              | • Journalism                | • Strength and Conditioning Training | • Young Enterprise       |
| • Christian Union      | • Literature Extra          | • String Group                       | • War Gaming and RPG     |
| • Combined Cadet Force | • Mandarin                  |                                      |                          |
| • Creative Writing     | • Model United Nations      |                                      |                          |

# Games

Sporting opportunities for all pupils are provided at every level throughout the School. In Years 10, 11 and the Development Year, pupils follow a full Games programme on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday afternoons. Pupils of all abilities are encouraged to develop their physical potential and develop their pioneering spirit.

## The following Sports are offered in Years 10, 11 and the Development Year:

- Autumn Term
- Girls Hockey
- Boys Rugby
- Spring Term
- Girls Netball
- Boys Football
- Summer Term
- Girls Tennis/Rounders
- Boys Cricket/Tennis

## Pupils in the Development Year may also be involved in:

- Rowing
- Squash
- Basketball
- Cross-Country
- Fencing
- Badminton
- Yoga
- Aerobics
- Athletics
- Equestrian





# Pre-A Level Development

The Pre-A Level Development Year (DY) has been designed mainly for international pupils wishing to study at A Level but who may not yet be ready for its challenges.

Wycliffe has been running a Development Year programme (and the international pupils' induction week) for nearly 20 years. With our deep-rooted experience and expertise to make it work effectively (especially through our excellence in teaching English to non-native speakers), Wycliffe's DY programme remains one of the best in the UK.

Development Year pupils have around 30-34 lessons per week of 45 minutes each. Each pupil's timetable is set during the Pre-Sessional Week according to a number of criteria including prior knowledge and/or aptitude, study and career plans (including home country requirements where the pupil is aware of these), timetabling limitations and pupil preferences.

The programme is designed in such a way so that some subjects lead to GCSE, IGCSE or EAL exams and some are non-examined. DY pupils will normally take at least five GCSEs, including one in their own mother tongue and an English IGCSE.



# Example Timetable

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	
8.15am	Registration in Houses					Registration in Houses	
8.30-8.45am	Assembly	Chapel	Chapel	Chapel	House meets	8.30-9.15am	Period 1
8.50-9.35am	Tutorial	Period 1	Tutorial	Period 1	Period 1	9.20-10.05am	Period 2
9.40-10.25am	Period 2	Period 2	Period 2	Period 2	Period 2	10.05am	Break
10.25am	Break					10.30-11.15am	Period 3
10.50-11.35am	Period 3	Period 3	Period 3	Period 3	Period 3	11.20am-12.05pm	Period 4
11.40am-12.25pm	Period 4	Period 4	Period 4	Period 4	Period 4	12.05pm	Lunch
12.25pm	Lunch						
1.35pm	Registration in Houses					Registration in Houses	
1.45-2.30pm	Period 5	Period 5	Period 5	Games	Period 5	1.45-2.30pm	Games
2.35-3.20pm	Period 6	Games	Period 6		Period 6		
3.25-4.10pm	Period 7		Period 7		Period 7		
4.10-4.30pm	Break						
4.30-5.30pm	Activities						
5.45-6.30pm	Prep 1						
6.30pm	Supper						
7.30pm (min 1 hour)	Prep 2						



## What you will study

The Pre-A Level Development Year runs prior to the final two years of school in the UK which are Years 12 and 13. The parallel year for UK pupils is Year 11, which is the second half of their two-year GCSE course in around nine subjects.

International pupils joining the English education system at this stage cannot expect to take the full range of subjects in half the time.

The Development Year programme is designed in such a way so that some subjects lead to GCSE, IGCSE or EAL exams and some are non-examined. DY pupils will take at least five GCSEs, including one in their own mother tongue and an English IGCSE.

## Core Subjects (examined)

All pupils must take the following subjects.

- English – first and/or second language GCSE or IGCSE
- Mathematics – GCSE or IGCSE
- Combined Science OR Biology – GCSE or IGCSE
- One Modern Foreign Language – GCSE or IGCSE (Japanese / Spanish / French / German)
- Untaught own language – GCSE or IGCSE (where available)
- Cambridge English Exams
- Trinity Speaking Exams

Some pupils, dependent on ability can take the following additional GCSE subjects. There will be examinations for these.

- Economics – GCSE or IGCSE
- Further Mathematics – Level 2
- Statistics – GCSE or IGCSE

## Optional Subjects (non-examined)

There are a range A Level subjects which Development Year pupils can also take. These are non-examined. Pupils take Life Skills, Business Studies and Economics and Geography throughout the year.

In the Autumn Term (Term 1) pupil can take two to four additional non-examined subjects. In January pupils again can choose two to four subjects.

- Life Skills (with UK pupils)
- Business Studies and Economics
- Geography
- Fine Art
- Photography
- Design and Technology
- Drama
- Geography
- History
- ICT and Computer Science
- Media Studies
- Music
- Psychology



# EAL and IGCSE (first and second language English)

EAL stands for English as an Additional Language. The study of English Language will constitute a significant number of the classes you attend in the Development Year.

For most pupils we expect improving your English to be one of your main aims in coming to the school. The EAL course is divided into three main areas: core, IGCSE and lessons preparing for the Cambridge suite of examinations. You will be placed into a set for each subject according to your language level.

## Why study EAL?

You will improve your English far more quickly by studying the language whilst immersed in the culture and language environment. The teachers are specialists with a great deal of experience and will be able to help you improve on any areas of weakness quickly and effectively.

## What will I study?

The Development Year core course provides practice of language and skills to complement those studied on the

exams courses. This structure allows for some flexibility and although a course book is used there may be scope for incorporating a wide range of authentic resources from the media such as the internet and newspapers, studying a reader and also learning study skills and doing project work.

The course is geared as much as possible to meet the overall English and study support needs of the pupils in the particular set.

In the examination lessons you will prepare to take Cambridge EAL examinations. These are a series of graded language tests recognised in many countries and they demonstrate your competence in general English. You will take your first examination in December and a higher level test in the Summer Term.

During the lessons you will spend time learning examination technique and practising the language and skills you need for each level. There will be a further examination which tests your speaking skills alone, called the Trinity Speaking Exams. You will take this once or twice in the year.

All pupils follow an IGCSE English course and, depending on their language aptitude and experience, are prepared to take either the IGCSE first language or the IGCSE second language English examination. Both examinations can be taken at either core or extended level. The former is a requirement for some pupils returning to their home country after a year of study in the UK, but a good grade in IGCSE E2L is accepted as proof of a satisfactory level of English by many Universities in the United Kingdom.

## Further reading

We encourage pupils to read as widely and as often as possible in English. Learn new vocabulary. Expose yourself to spoken English through films, newspapers and the internet as well as reading books in English. Speak the language whenever you have the opportunity. Familiarise yourself with British culture and current affairs through sites on the internet, as learning as much about the country as you can before you arrive will also help you to integrate more easily into the culture and school life in general.

# Mathematics

## Why study Mathematics?

A GCSE qualification in Mathematics at Grade C or better is essential for all pupils wishing to enter higher education in the UK. For those wishing to go on to study Mathematics, Engineering and Science-related subjects, A Level Mathematics is often required.

## What will I study?

You will be entered for the International GCSE or IGCSE qualification offered by the exam board Edexcel. The examination is designed to assess achievement in the following areas:

Number and Algebra (approximately 60%): Numbers and the numbering system, calculations, solving numerical problems, equations, formulae and identities, sequences, functions and graphs.

Space and Measures (approximately 25%): Geometry, area and volume, trigonometry, vectors and transformation geometry.

Handling Data (approximately 15%): Statistics and probability.

There are two tiers of examination with two papers at each tier, pupils taking the papers most suited to their overall ability.

## How will it be examined?

There are two tiers of examination with two papers at each tier, pupils taking the papers most suited to their overall ability.

### FOUNDATION

5-1 Two 2-hour written exams

### HIGHER

9-4 Two 2-hour written exams

## Further reading

The strongest foundation is built on working hard on Maths in your current school. Some books that might prove interesting reading beyond the school curriculum:

*Mathematics (A very short introduction)* by Timothy Gowers

*A Concise History of Mathematics* by Dirk Struik 1089

*All That (A Journey into Mathematics)* by David Acheson

Any mathematics books by Rob Eastaway or Ian Stewart

*Fermat's Last Theorem: Unlocking the secret of an Ancient Mathematical Problem* by Amir Aczel

# Science

## Why study Science?

A solid grounding in Science is the gateway to many careers. Scientists are in demand and good Science graduates often go on to work in finance and business as well as scientific careers.

## What will I study?

All DY pupils will study the Cambridge IGCSE in Combined Science. This will be taught by three specialist teachers in purpose-built teaching laboratories. Pupils will have two 45-minute lessons

per week in each of the three Science subjects, which are Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

## What is the course structure?

The Cambridge IGCSE is examined by three exams:

- Exam 1: a 45-minute multiple choice questions paper
- Exam 2: a 75-minute written paper
- Exam 3: a 60-minute practical theory paper

Each paper will contain an even spread of questions from the three Sciences. Pupils may be entered for the core paper (grades C to G) or the extended theory paper (grades A to G).

Pupils will receive a letter grade on a scale A to G.

## Further reading

Read the news. Scientific discoveries and breakthroughs are happening all the time. You can also look at revision websites such as Bitesize or find out more about the course we study (Google “CIE 653” to find out more).

# Biology (Single Science)

## Why study Biology?

Anyone who has a desire, and the necessary ability, to study Biology at A Level should opt for this course. Unlike the Science Development Year option, you will gain a GCSE in a specific Science, which may be suitable for those who are looking to return to their own educational systems after the Development Year.

## What will I study?

You will have an average of seven Biology lessons each week, delivered by two different teachers. You will sit two papers in the Summer. We aim to cover the content of the first paper in the first Term, and that of the second paper in the second Term.

### TERM 1

- Cell Biology
- Organisation
- Infection and Response
- Bioenergetics

### TERM 2

- Homeostasis and Response
- Inheritance, Variation and Evolution
- Ecology

## Further reading

BBC Bitesize offers a fantastic way for you to get a head start on your study with short videos and questions.

# Modern Foreign Languages

In addition to English lessons, you will take a foreign language from French, Spanish, Beginners' Spanish, German and Japanese. French, Spanish and Japanese on the main timetable will follow a one-year GCSE course leading to either a full GCSE (four examinations) for the majority or no external exam for a small minority.

Many DY pupils also take an untaught GCSE exam in their mother tongue such as German, Mandarin, Cantonese or Russian.

Where other language requirements exist (such as for Latin) we can give advice and guidance in studying the language and, subject to availability, occasionally arrange additional lessons.

other language to be spoken on five continents. Languages are very useful in the workplace, and employees with a second language can be paid 8-20% more than those who do not have one.

## What will I study?

You will study Reading, Writing, Listening and Speaking through media, ITC and many authentic resources. Option 1 pupils will be working towards the Full Edexcel IGCSE. Pupils taking Option 2 may or may not take the GCSE exam.

The topics are:

- Home and Aboard
- Education and Employment
- Personal Life
- Relationships
- The World Around Us
- Social Activities, Fitness and Health

to learn, having an IGCSE in German will enhance your employability and University applications. German is the most widely spoken language within Europe, and also one of the most popular languages learnt as a second language.

It is the third most popular foreign language taught worldwide, and the second most popular in Europe and Japan. The German economy remains strong with it being the third largest exporter in the world. Therefore, the chance of dealing with German speakers in your future work life is relatively high.

## What will I study?

This is for pupils who ideally have studied German before. At the end of the year, you will be able to do the IGCSE qualification.

You will study five different topic areas:

- Home and Abroad
- Education and Employment
- House, Home and Daily Routine
- The Modern World and the Environment
- Social Activities, Fitness and Health

# French

## Why study French?

French will help improve your communication skills and your awareness of the world. You will have access to a different culture through travel, music, film, the internet, and the media. French is still the second most frequently taught foreign language in England, and is the only

# German

## Why study German?

German will help you improve your communication skills and your awareness of the world. Since it is perceived as a challenging language



Modern Foreign Languages cont.

# Japanese

## Why study Japanese?

Japan’s influence in world commerce, trade, industry, media, sport and tourism makes it a leading global economy. Whether you wish to combine Japanese Language with any of these specialisms, or whether you simply wish to learn more about the arts, culture and heritage of the Japanese, you will find this course both fascinating and inspirational. Chinese-speaking pupils often find that they can pick up this language quickly and go on to do very well at A Level.

## What will I study?

You will study vocabulary, written characters, and grammatical structures based on the themes of:

- Identity and culture
- Local area, holiday, travel
- School
- Future aspirations, study and work
- International and global dimension

Pupils will also learn about the geography and history of Japan as well as its culture including media, manga, calligraphy, art and technology.

# Spanish

## Why study Spanish?

Spanish will raise your awareness of many different cultures and will provide you with some strategies to improve your communication skills. Spanish is the world’s third most spoken language, and ranks second in terms of native speakers. It is the second most used language in international communication, and an official language of the UN and its organisations.

If you speak Spanish you can communicate with almost 500 million people worldwide. It may also give you a better understanding of English since much of the vocabulary of English has Latin origins.

## What will I study?

### OPTION 1 IGCSE

This is for pupils who may require a qualification in an additional language other than English and may have studied Spanish before.

### OPTION 2 BEGINNERS

If you have never studied Spanish before and do not require a formal qualification, Option 2 is available. You will study a one-year course which will teach you the basic skills for communicating in Spanish.

In both options, you will study Reading, Writing, Listening and Speaking, through media, ICT, contact with native speakers and many authentic resources. Option 1 pupils will be working towards the full IGCSE. Pupils taking Option 2 may or may not take the GCSE exam.

# Economics

## Why study Economics?

Some pupils joining our Development Year are expected to follow a pure Economics course in order to comply with their home country requirements. We are pleased to be able to meet this need with a GCSE in Economics. Other pupils may be admitted to this GCSE rather than the non-examined course if the School considers it suitable for them.

The study of economics is one of the most useful areas for any pupil. It provides you with the ability to look at and explain the actions we see played out every day from the personal choices we make to those made by businesses and even entire countries. A range of numerical and written skills are required as is the willingness to look outside the classroom in order to research, investigate and discuss current economic issues.

## What will I study?

The course will cover both macro and micro aspects of economics. The micro side of the course includes topics such as how markets work, including how resources are allocated, how prices are determined, competitive markets and market failure. The macro side of the course looks at how an economy works, including government objectives, how governments manage the economy and the role that money plays in the financial markets.

## How will it be examined?

The GCSE will be assessed by examinations in the Summer Term. The questions will be a mixture of multiple choice type to more developed answers including numerical questions.

## Further reading

The best background reading is high quality economics journalism on current issues. These can be found online or in print and you should try and stick to reputable media organisations, for example the BBC, Sky, Bloomberg and CNN. The majority of UK quality newspapers will have comprehensive reporting on economics such as The Times, The Telegraph or The Guardian.

In order to encourage an interest and increase your level of understanding it is advisable that you read a mixture of articles, some in English and some in your own language.



# Further Mathematics

## Why study Further Mathematics?

This course is an opportunity to broaden and deepen understanding of some of the topics studied at IGCSE Mathematics. An emphasis is placed on higher order technical proficiency, rigorous argument and problem-solving skills. It also gives an introduction to calculus and matrices and develops further skills in trigonometry, functions and graphs. It is a Level 2 Certificate which is the equivalent of a Higher Level GCSE, though this award has an extra grade above an A\*. This (or a similar course) is normally taken by pupils from the top Development Year mathematics set.

Able Mathematicians who are likely to achieve a top grade at IGCSE will benefit from the extra challenge this course presents. If you are considering studying Mathematics or Further Mathematics at A Level, this provides a taster of some of the topics you will study in Year 12.

## What will I study?

The general areas of mathematics studied are:

- Algebra
- Geometry
- Calculus
- Matrices

- Trigonometry
- Functions
- Graphs

## How is the course examined?

Paper 1: 1 hour 30 minutes – written paper (non-calculator) 40%

Paper 2: 2 hour – written paper (calculator) 60%

Grades available: A\* (A\* with distinction), A\*, A, B, C

## Further reading

For other reading, please see Mathematics on Page 13.

# Statistics

## Why study Statistics?

Statistics is the study of the collection, analysis, interpretation, presentation, and organisation of data. Often this is numerical data in large quantities, used especially for the purpose of inferring proportions in a whole from those in a representative sample.

The Statistics GCSE is an ideal course for those pupils who are considering taking A Level Maths and, in particular, those who have an interest in Economics or Finance. It supports any future study that might involve statistics, such as Geography or Biology A Level.

## What will I study?

The course will introduce the meaning of key terms to familiarise you with the language associated with probability and statistics. You will get the opportunity to work with and explore a large data set and learn a variety of ways of analysing and displaying the data, how data can be biased and how statistics can often be misleading.

## How is the course examined?

Two written examinations, 1 hour 45 minutes for each paper with multiple choice, short answers and a statistical enquiring cycle question.

## Further reading

Statistics Without Tears by Derek Rowntree, published by Penguin Books. This book is written for anyone who needs or wants to know how Statistics work. It assumes no expert knowledge, and teaches through words and diagrams rather than through figures, formulae and equations.

*What is a P-value Anyway?: 34 Stories to Help You Actually Understand Statistics* by Andrew Vickers, published by Pearson. Offers a fun introduction to the fundamental principles of statistics, presenting the essential concepts in 34 brief, enjoyable stories.

# Fine Art

## Why study Fine Art?

Fine Art is relevant if you wish to pursue a career in any visual or media discipline. Pupils completing A Level Fine Art can apply directly to Art Foundation Courses and University Degree Courses in Art and Design. Fine Art is often required for related University studies, for example Architecture, Restoration, and History of Art.

## What will I study?

This course focuses on two-dimensional work (drawing, painting and printmaking). You will experience working with a range of materials to express your creative ideas with increasing levels of skill. All work is initially developed from observational drawing; this is used to form the basis for more personal outcomes. You will be taught a range of techniques and ways of working that will enhance the quality of your work. To be successful you will need to be open to exploring new ideas, have a capacity for hard work and a developing interest in Art.

## What is the course structure?

### TERM 1 – DRAWING DEVELOPMENT

You will work from a range of subject matter in order to develop a body of experimental drawing using a wide variety of materials on different scales.

### TERMS 2 AND 3 – DRAWING INTO PAINTING

You will develop the skills acquired in Term 1 through a further body of drawing, leading to paintings on canvas. As the course progresses your work will become more personal in nature.

# Business Studies and Economics

## Why study Business Studies and Economics?

This course is designed to prepare you to follow either Economics or Business Studies at A Level. Whilst this course concentrates on developing the skills required to begin running your own business, Economics is a more theoretical approach to the world of business, using simple mathematical models to examine the behaviour of individuals, firms, industries and governments.

It is relevant to the world you live in, and to your future. You will develop a full range of skills that will be useful in other subjects you study and in employment.

## What will I study?

### FIRST TERM – INTRODUCTION TO BUSINESS STUDIES

You will be introduced to the world of small business and will look at what makes someone a successful business person.

You will find out how to develop an idea and how to spot an opportunity and turn that into a successful business.

You will understand how to make a business effective and manage money.

In the Summer Term, you will undertake a Business and Economics research project.

### SECOND TERM – INTRODUCTION TO ECONOMICS:

Microeconomics, the study of the behaviour of individuals, firms and industries using the basic economics models of demand and supply.

Macroeconomics, the study of whole economy issues such as economic growth, inflation and unemployment. We study what causes these phenomena and what governments can do to ‘steer’ their economies.



# Design and Technology

## Why study Design and Technology?

By studying Design and Technology, you will be able to develop problem solving, designing and making skills. It is an excellent opportunity to be creative and to convert great ideas into functioning products. Design and Technology can provide a career in a wide variety of industries such as design, engineering, architecture and information technology.

## What will I study?

This course gives you an introduction to Design and Technology and you will be given a taste of everything that the subject has to offer. Through a series of design-and-make projects you will learn how to communicate your ideas, work with a range of materials and use a range of equipment. You will use 3D computer-aided design programs, graphic design programs, the laser cutter, the sublimation printer and

workshop equipment. The course aims to show the scope of Design and Technology at A Level.

## Further reading

You may like to keep a sketchbook to draw ideas or practise your presentation techniques. You could also have a scrapbook to keep inspiring products or images.

# Drama

## Why study Drama?

Drama helps with speaking in public, and developing interpersonal skills, such as working with others, problem solving and of course communication in the English language. You will also find that Drama will help you feel more self-confident. It provides the motivation to start to evaluate your own values and beliefs and allows you to express emotion and opinion in English through the means of discussion and role play. You will enjoy this course if you want to study a subject that is both practical and creative and involves a lot of group work.

Drama will also help you integrate within the Wycliffe community. In past years most of the pupils who took DY Drama found themselves volunteering to help in the school play both on stage and behind the scenes back stage, as well as participating in the House Drama Competition, House Film Competitions and in the House Music Competition.

## What will I study?

The course is all about understanding what it is like to put yourself in somebody else's shoes. You will have the opportunity to create your own

work using themes that are of interest to you, as well as look at plays or films written by other people in the English language. You will be given the opportunity to introduce a favourite play or film from your country in order for the class to interpret and study. You will explore ways of making a play work on stage through the use of lighting, sound, costumes and hand props. Before the end of the school year the objective is to put on your own play based on the year's work, giving you the opportunity to perform as an actor or in the technical production team.

# Geography

## Why study Geography?

Geography is a wide-ranging subject, giving you the opportunity to study a variety of human and environmental issues. You will be given plenty of opportunities to learn key terminology and develop skills such as map work and data analysis.

At A Level, Geography acts as a bridge between the broader Humanities and Science subjects and

is well situated to be combined with all other subjects.

Careers using Geography include working with the environment, geographical information systems, town and country planning, surveying, civil service, law, accountancy, banking, teaching and advertising.

## What will I study?

You will study both human and physical geography. The purpose is

not only to learn new material, but also to develop skills and lay down foundations, if you wish to continue and study A Level Geography.

The following topics are taught:

- Rivers and floods
- Population
- Coasts and the implications of climate change on sea levels
- Development

# History

## Why study History?

Studying History gives you an important skills set and enables you to develop your English. History encourages you to analyse, explain and use evidence. Skills taught include research skills, problem solving, constructing arguments, the ability to question reliability and the ability to develop communication skills. Careers which use History are not limited to history teaching and museum work. The skills learned are sought after in careers including law, accountancy and journalism.

## What will I study?

This course is designed to give you an overview of key events and people in British history, while developing both your historical skills and your English.

You will investigate the causes and consequences of these events, using evidence to decide on the most and least important. Events and people studied include:

- The Battle of Hastings and William the Conqueror
- The Spanish Armada
- The English Civil War

- The British Empire
- Britain in the 20th Century

## Further reading

A good way to prepare is to watch some of David Starkey's series Monarchy which can be found on various sites including YouTube.

# ICT and Computer Science

## What is ICT and Computer Science?

ICT is the study of technologies, covering both hardware and software, and the impact that they have on the world in which we live. ICT focuses on the creative and productive use and application of technology and computer systems, especially in organisations. Computer Science is the study of the foundational principles and practices of computation and computational

thinking, and their application in the design and development of computer systems. The role of Computer Science as a discipline itself and as an ‘underpinning’ subject across Science and Engineering is growing rapidly.

## Why study ICT and Computer Science?

ICT and Computer Science are two different subject disciplines for A Level, and we aim to give you a taster of both subjects within this

curriculum. This course is not just useful to those pupils intending to study for an A Level in ICT or Computer Science. Those with other interests or aspirations can also benefit from the many transferable skills that are inherent in the study of ICT. The course provides an excellent foundation for using ICT and Computer Science in Sixth Form, future employment and the world of work.

# Media Studies

## What is Media Studies?

Media Studies is interesting, exciting and relevant to your life. It will lay a valuable foundation for Media Studies at A Level. You will improve your English skills and enhance your ability to present to an audience. You will learn a great deal about British and American culture. You will appreciate sophisticated lines of argument about matters such as media impact and audience response.

You will learn about how opinions are shaped and how powerful voices seek to influence the media. You will learn valuable, transferable ICT skills that will be with you for life.

## What is the course structure?

### AUTUMN TERM

Blockbuster films – how they exist as part of the industry. Film analysis – macro and micro features.

### SPRING TERM

Review writing. Short film form. Music videos. Planning to re-create an existing video.

### SUMMER TERM

Filming and Editing a music video (group work). Analysing success through market research and target market analysis. Summer movie event.

## Further reading

You cannot effectively engage with this subject unless you are interested in media in many forms. Therefore your first task is to increase your consumption (and perhaps production) of media products (films, magazines, newspapers, blogs etc). Familiarity with some of the key terminology for analysing moving images will be helpful. You will also find media sections in the online editions of all the quality newspapers.

# Music

## Why study Music?

We investigate Music through a number of tasks, enabling you to develop a greater understanding of how music works and why. The course encourages you to explore music with a good level of freedom, whilst allowing you to access the subject through familiar starting points.

## What is the course structure?

Whilst the course structure can be tailored to the needs of individual pupils to some extent, the intention is to introduce the class to the content of the AS Music Technology course and the equipment and software used.

## TOPIC 1 – AN INTRODUCTION TO MUSIC

- Accessing music and information on music using the internet.
- The preparation and delivery of a presentation using Powerpoint on a music topic or artist of the pupil's choice

## TOPIC 2 – AN INTRODUCTION TO SEQUENCING AND RECORDING

- Using Garageband sequencing software to create a short dance track
- Analysis of various pieces of music
- Using Logic sequencing software to compose and present a piece of music in a chosen style

## TOPIC 3 – AN INTRODUCTION TO GUITAR, KEYBOARD AND DRUM KIT PERFORMANCE

- Learning basic skills required for each instrument
- Performance of several popular songs as part of a group

## TOPIC 4 – THE HISTORY OF POPULAR MUSIC

- Creating a timeline of important popular music artists and styles
- Listening to and analysing popular music in different styles
- Analysis of various pieces of music including current GCSE and A Level set works

## Further reading

Reading about the history of music and specific artists or composers will help prepare you for the course. Listening to as much music as you can of as wide a variety as you can would also be extremely beneficial. You could try listening to the radio or exploring the BBC Music website. There are many free downloadable software packages, such as Audacity.



# Psychology

## What is Psychology?

Psychology is the scientific study of mind and behaviour. Its aim is to discover, using research and theories, just what makes us behave and think the way we do.

## Why study Psychology?

Psychology is the scientific study of mind and behaviour. Its aim is to discover, using research and theories, just what makes us behave and think the way we do.

## What is the course structure?

In Psychology we select from a range of topics that are of interest to pupils. Some are on the GCSE or A Level syllabi, although we cover them at a level which is suitable for the group.

They are placed in the context of the different branches of Psychology, and we also consider the scientific nature of Psychology and how it differs from common sense.

Assessment is continuous and includes prep, class contributions, short tests and other assignments. Some topics we often study over an academic year are:

- Personality and psychometrics
- Biological Psychology and Neuroscience
- Prejudice and Stereotypes
- Conformity and Obedience
- Early Development
- Empathy and Attachment
- Forensic Psychology
- Sleep and Dreaming
- Mental disorders

If pupils wish, they are welcome to do project work in an area they have a special interest in.

## Further reading

There are many psychology books available; to start with you can read the Family and Gender sections in any weekend newspaper. There is also a popular Psychologies magazine or you could purchase *A very short introduction to Psychology* by Butler and McManus.

# Life Skills

Wycliffe's bespoke Life Skills programme is designed to prepare pupils for the world and has been highly praised by external inspectors on two recent visits. Our programme includes: careers; relationship education; mental and emotional wellbeing; and financial, global and political awareness. During the Development Year, an important aspect is how to study effectively and our syllabus, supported by the tutorial system, ensures that learning how to study and revise properly are central to what we do.

# The Careers Department

The Careers Department offers individual careers guidance to all Development Year pupils including post-16 and post-18 options. There is a comprehensive Careers Library and a range of computer-based university research resources. In the Autumn Term all Development Year pupils receive an individual mock interview with a local employer. There are also events held at Wycliffe which are attended by universities and major employers which offer pupils a chance to find out more directly.

We also have teachers who assist those applying for highly-competitive courses and a member of staff who facilitates international university applications and the sitting of SAT exams on-site at Wycliffe.

# Learning Support

Wycliffe offers support for international pupils who may need Learning Support. Our experience shows that with appropriate teaching, differentiation and resources, pupils with Learning Support needs gain confidence and go on to achieve well.

In recognition of our provision for pupils with specific learning difficulties, Wycliffe has been accredited by CReSTeD (category DU: Dyslexia Unit).

The Senior School has a designated Learning Support Unit which guides and supports pupils and staff in all matters of Learning Support, including pupil profiling, tuition, reasonable adjustments and training.

# Progression to A Levels

Many of our international pupils have first studied in our Development Year before going on to achieve outstanding A Levels results with us and then going to top ranking universities in the UK and overseas. Their reasons for studying in the Development Year are varied but are often as simple as wanting to get the best start prior to the very important last two years of school.

Changing educational systems can pose challenges to new pupils and we have found that three terms in the Development Year can smooth many of these – maximising focus, progress and attainment in readiness for the A Level programme. One key area is that, in addition to gaining useful qualifications and making progress in English, the significant support given in careers and A Level subject selection during the Development Year gives pupils the best opportunity to make informed choices and therefore achieve the best possible results in their A Level studies.

Matt Archer  
Head of Sixth Form

## Subjects

Art and Design

Biology

Business

Chemistry

Computer Science

Design Technology

Drama and Theatre

Economics

English Literature

Film Studies

French

Further Mathematics

Geography

German

History

Japanese

Mathematics

Music

Physical Education

Physics

Psychology

Quantitative Reasoning

Religious Studies

Spanish

The Extended Project  
Qualification

BTEC Business

BTEC Digital Production

BTEC Sport

## Complementing the Sixth Form Curriculum, the following courses are available:

GCSE Mathematics Repeat

GCSE English Language  
Repeat

English for Speakers of Other  
Languages (compulsory for  
International pupils)

# Our Purpose

Inspire and educate every individual in mind, body and soul.

# Our Vision

Wycliffe will promote a pioneering spirit and encourage individuals to flourish and embrace their futures as global citizens.



# Aims for our pupils

**A**chieve their full academic, spiritual, physical and creative potential.

**B**ehave with ‘unassuming confidence’\*, showing generosity of spirit, respect for others and appreciation of diversity.

**C**ultivate social and environmental awareness and an understanding of their role as global citizens.

**D**evelop skills, self-knowledge and resilience to face positively all future challenges.

**E**xhibit creativity, innovation and independence in their approach to learning and to life.

**F**eel happy and secure.

\*This was a comment made by the Inspection team during the 2016 ISI visit when seeking to describe the Wycliffe pupils they had met.



*Bold & Loyal*  
1882...

[wycliffe.co.uk](http://wycliffe.co.uk)