

Pre-A Level Development Year



Ages 15 to 17
One Year GCSE Programme



Wycliffe



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*options subject to change



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.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "N. J. Gregory". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line that extends to the left and then curves downwards to the right.

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

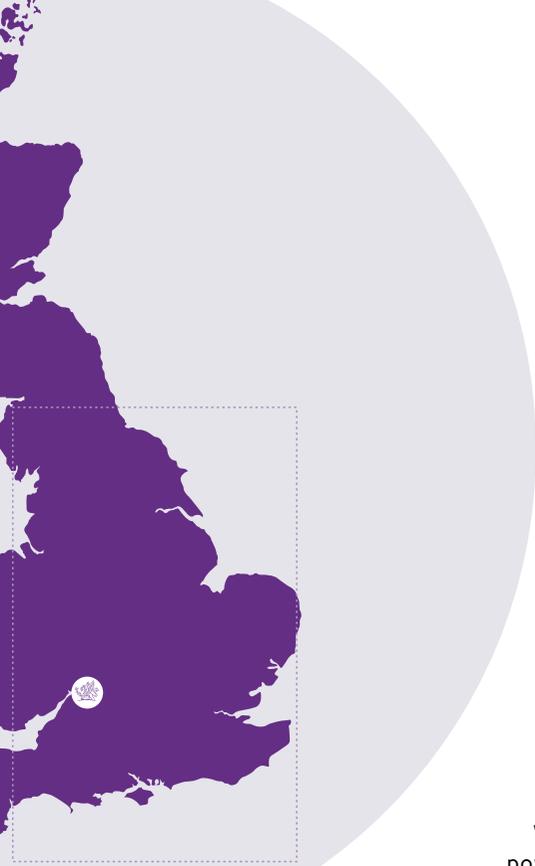
best elements of this one-year GCSE programme is that pupils are integrated into the extra-curricular and pastoral life of the whole community.

Pupils undertake activities such as Sport, Music, Drama and the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme with pupils from across the School. We have been running the Development Year programme for over 20 years, and each year, most of our pupils progress to Sixth Form to take A Levels or BTECs. The one year courses enable 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
Email: wdaylewis@wycliffe.co.uk

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. Pupils can talk to their Form Tutors, the onsite Medical Staff, the College Chaplain and the Deputy Head Pastoral, who are always there if they need them. Matron is the main presence in the Houses during the day and is always on hand to welcome you into the House at break times, lunchtime and the start and end of the day.

The communication between parents and staff is a key strength of what we do. Our staff ensure they talk to parents about achievements and concerns as each week progresses.

We have eight Houses, 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.

Our Houses

HAYWARDSEND: This beautiful 18th Century building is home to 35 girls both day and boarders from across all year groups.

HAYWARDSFIELD: This is Wycliffe's oldest boarding house; situated at the heart of the campus and is home to 50 boys.

IVY GROVE: Situated in the new Ward's-Ivy Grove building, this award winning facility opened in 2017, and is home to 40 girls.

LAMPETER: Is the best of both worlds – a beautiful Victorian building significantly extended in 2012 and it is home to 40 girls.

ROBINSON: A boarding house full of energy and enthusiasm. Home to 70 boys, the modern building is situated close to the sports field.

WARD'S: Home to 45 boys Ward's is located within the nationally recognised Ward's-Ivy Grove building, opened in 2017.

LOOSLEY HALLS: A home for Years 11, 12 and 13. Loosley Halls is home to 60 boys and girls in three separate houses.

COLLINGWOOD: Is home to 50 day pupils from Years 9-11 where they have their own desk, cupboard and shelf space.

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

Achieve their full academic, spiritual, physical and creative potential.

Behave with ‘a strong moral understanding’.. ‘taking responsibility for their own behaviour’*, showing generosity of spirit, respect for others and appreciation of diversity..

Cultivate social and environmental awareness and an understanding of their role as global citizens.

Develop skills, self-knowledge and resilience to face positively all future challenges.

Exhibit creativity, innovation and independence in their approach to learning and to life.

Feel happy and secure.

*This was a comment made by the Inspection team during the ISI Inspection (Autumn 2022) when seeking to describe the Wycliffe pupils they had met, the inspection found us to be “Excellent” in all areas.



Embracing Global Citizenship

We prepare our young people to succeed and find their passions in an increasingly interconnected world. At Wycliffe we aim to do this by embracing the school vision of promoting a Pioneering Spirit and encouraging individuals to embrace their future as Global Citizens.

Cultural diversity is an important part of the Wycliffe experience and crucial to our pupils becoming true global citizens. A third of Senior and Prep School Pupils are International, which allows us to share and learn from each other's cultures. At the same time, becoming a positive citizen of the world, it is vital to understand our own environments and culture.

As a Round Square school, Wycliffe is part of Round Square's internationally diverse network of 200 like-minded schools in 50 countries on

six continents. These schools inspire pupils to become future leaders and custodians of our planet, and importantly share a commitment beyond academic excellence in terms of personal development, responsibility and understanding through service, challenge, and adventure.

We are developing a unique curriculum which includes facets of the six IDEALS or 'pillars' that make up the Round Square continuum (Internationalism, Democracy, Environmentalism, Adventure, Leadership and Service) and these align neatly with Wycliffe's values. They have provided an opportunity to work in collaboration with schools across the world and every pupil will take part in a Round Square collaboration every year.

Pioneering Spirit

The concept of Pioneering Spirit encompasses all that education is about – challenging yourself, working collaboratively, getting through really tough times and sometimes falling over, dusting yourself off and carrying on.

We promote a pioneering spirit by developing critical thinking, enhanced through opportunities in problem-solving and considering perspectives, all the while shaping a love of learning.

Developing Rounded Individuals

The Wycliffe experience is more than what happens in the classroom. We nurture mind, body and soul through our diverse extra-curricular programme. We offer a wide range of activities and clubs, from traditional skills such as Beekeeping and Chess to the 21st Century ones of Cryptology and Esports. 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):

- Art
- Basketball
- Beekeeping
- Brass Groups
- Ceramics
- Cookery
- Charities Committee
- Choir
- Chess
- Chinese
- Combined Cadet Force
- Creative Writing
- Cryptology
- Debating
- Design Technology
- Duke of Edinburgh Award
- Esports
- Fiction Addiction
- Film Appreciation
- Gardening
- Investment Club
- Italian
- Jazz Combo
- Literature Extra
- Mandarin
- Model United Nations
- Orchestra
- Philosophy for Life
- Photography
- Pottery
- Raspberry Pi
- Robotics
- Running
- Science
- Scrabble
- Sewing
- Strength and Conditioning Training
- String Group
- Student Magazine
- Supervised Fitness
- Swimming
- Table Tennis
- Ten Tors Expedition
- Theatre Trips
- War Gaming
- Wind Groups
- Wycliffe Youth Theatre
- VOX
- Voluntary work
- Young Dragons
- Young Enterprise

Leadership, looking after others and being part of a team are essential aspects of life at Wycliffe. As pupils move through the Schools, we encourage every individual to take on a role supporting others in Pastoral, Academic or Sporting activities. Learning to be a responsible young adult that cares for your community is part of a Wycliffe education

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 Cricket/Tennis
- Boys Cricket/Tennis

Pupils in the Development Year may also be involved in:

- Rowing
- Squash
- Basketball
- Cross-Country
- Cross Fit
- 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 may be too young or not yet ready for its challenges.

Wycliffe has been running a Development Year programme (and the international pupils' Pre-Sessional 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.



Teaching and Learning

At Wycliffe we aim for our pupils to achieve their full academic, spiritual, physical and creative potential.

We teach our pupils to be creative and innovative in their thinking and have an independent approach to their learning, whilst developing their confidence and self-knowledge.

We offer an inclusive, safe and stimulating environment – inside the classroom and beyond, with robust and thorough academic support including:

- specialist teachers
- small class sizes
- regular study support
- individual action plans
- continuous progress tracking

Example Years 9 to 11 Weekly 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	Period 1	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					Registration in Houses
1.35pm	Registration in Houses					1.45-2.30pm Games
1.45-2.30pm	Period 5	Period 5	Period 5	Games	Period 5	Games
2.35-3.20pm	Period 6	Games	Period 6		Period 6	
3.25-4.10pm	Period 7		Period 7		Period 7	
4.10pm	Lessons end					
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.

We ensure that International pupils joining the English education system take the core subjects at GCSE enabling them to move onto A Levels / further education in their homeland.

The Development Year programme is designed in such a way 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 Physics – 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) pupils can take two to four additional non-examined subjects. In January pupils again can choose two to four subjects.

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

EAL and IGCSE (First / Second / Additional Language English)

EAL stands for English as an Additional Language. Studying 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 EAL examinations. You will be placed into a set for each subject according to your language level.

Studying English study EAL?

You will improve your English 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 a 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, the IGCSE second language English, or the IGCSE English as an Additional Language examination. Some pupils take a combination of two of these.

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 and 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

A GCSE qualification in Mathematics at Grade 4 is generally required for 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.

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

The three sciences are Biology, the study of life processes, Chemistry, the study of properties of matter and Physics, the study of how energy and matter interact.

Why study science?

Not all scientists wear white coats! Some go into space, dive under the sea or help design and make mobile phones. A solid grounding in science is the gateway to many careers. The skills acquired in science are essential to success in all areas of life. For example, you will develop problem solving, numeracy and questioning skills. Scientists are in demand and good science graduates often go on to work in business and finance as well as scientific careers.

Physics

Unlike the Single Award Science course, this course provides an option to specialise in one of the three sciences and may be suitable for those looking to return to education in their home country after Development Year. In addition, any student contemplating studying A Level Physics may benefit from following this course.

What will I study in science?

All DY pupils will study the Person Edexcel iGCSE in combined science. This will be taught by three specialist teachers in purpose built teaching laboratories. Pupils will have four or five 45 minute lessons per fortnight in each of the three science subjects.

These are some of the topics that will be studied:

- In Biology: Organisms; Reproduction; Ecology.
- In Chemistry: Principles of chemistry; Physical chemistry; Inorganic chemistry; Organic chemistry.
- In Physics: Forces and Motion; Energy; Waves; Radioactivity; Astrophysics

What will I study?

You will have an average of seven Physics lessons each week, delivered by two different teachers. You will sit two papers in the summer, each covering different parts of the specification.

TERM 1

- Energy
- Waves
- Electricity
- Particle model of matter
- Atomic structure

TERM 2

- Electromagnetic waves
- Forces and motion
- Magnetism and electromagnetism
- Space

What is the course structure?

The Edexcel iGCSE is examined by three 70 minute exams, one for each of the three sciences. The final grade is determined by the combined score from these three exams. At the end of the course pupils will receive a numerical grade on a scale 9 to 1.

Further reading

Read the news. Scientific discoveries and breakthroughs are happening all the time. You can also look at revision websites such as BBC Bitesize or find out more about the course we study (google “Edexcel 4SS0” to find out more).

Further reading

BBC Bitesize is a perfect way to prepare for your Physics study, providing short videos and questions. Seneca Learning also has free courses following AQA GCSE Physics.

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 Latin) we can give advice and guidance in studying the language and, subject to availability, occasionally arrange additional lessons.

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 other language to be spoken on five continents. Languages are beneficial 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

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 to learn, having an IGCSE in German will enhance your employability and University applications. German is the most widely spoken language in Europe, and 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

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 the Language with any of these specialisms, or 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 provide you with 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

Some pupils joining our Development Year are expected to follow a pure Economics course 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 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

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, graded on the same scale of 4 - 9.

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 45 minutes - written paper (non-calculator) 50%

Paper 2: 1 hour 45 minutes - written paper (calculator) 50%

Grades available: 4 - 9

Further reading

For other reading, please see Mathematics on Page 15.

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.

Optional subjects are dependent on timetable fit, but typically include:

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

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, 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 learn 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 is 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.

Computer Science

Computer Science is the study of the 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.

What will I study?

The DY Computer Science pupils spend the year learning to program. We use the Python programming language - a fully-featured language used by professionals, and which also suits beginners well. It is currently the world's most employable programming language. The aim of the DY course is to give the pupils an understanding of the principles of programming, and enough practical skill that they can

engage with the A Level Computer Science course. Whether or not they choose to study CS at A Level they will leave the course with some programming skill that will be useful to a student who goes on to study an engineering or scientific subject, and with an understanding of the programming that underlies the increasingly computerised world in which they are growing up.

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

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, and the House Music Competition.

What will I study?

You will begin the year by watching and exploring a range of British Theatre and develop your ability to analyse and evaluate performance. This will give you a clear and basic knowledge of how to communicate meaning on stage. After this, you will move on to study theatre from your own culture. In this unit, you

will research, create and deliver a presentation. This improves your written and spoken English as well as your public speaking skills. In the last unit of the year, you will explore and study different vocal and physical acting skills in both naturalistic and non-naturalistic theatre styles. These units of study help to develop a breadth of theatrical knowledge over the course of the year.



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

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.

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

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. The course is designed to be adapted to suit the interests and ambitions of the pupils.

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 GCSE Music course, with a range of tasks designed to encompass performing, composing and analysing music. Composition, in particular, enables us to explore different styles of music, including an introduction to some of the equipment and software used.

Topic 1 – An Introduction to Music

- An introduction to music theory.
- Looking at some of the vocabulary we use to describe music, and how to listen critically to music.
- An introduction to music history and analysis.

Topic 2 – Listening to and analysing music

- A chance to look in detail at some pieces of music from the GCSE Music course, looking at some of the key features and the associated musical vocabulary.
- Using Sibelius and/ or MuseScore software to work on different styles of composition according to the musical interests of each student.

Topic 3 – An introduction to solo performance

- Enabling pupils to develop their solo performance skills through performing in class and receiving regular feedback.
- Exploring different performing techniques on a variety of instruments through different music genres.
- Continuing to develop our analytical and listening skills.

Topic 4 – Composing our own music

- Creating our own music, using software such as GarageBand, Logic, Sibelius or MuseScore.
- Exploring how to write music in different styles, and to construct a successful piece of music.
- Considering how to combine different ideas, sometimes from diverse musical traditions and genres, in one piece of music.

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 and of a wide variety would also be extremely beneficial. You could try listening to the radio, to Spotify playlists, or exploring the BBC Music website. There are many free downloadable software packages, such as GarageBand, MuseScore and 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 suitable level 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.



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.

YEAR 11 MOCK INTERVIEWS

Pupils use their career management table to complete an application form promoting their USP prior to an interview with business professionals.

CAREER PORTFOLIO

All pupils use their career portfolios to guide their exploration of their passions, interests and skills to discover clues to future possibilities and to build career management skills.

RESOURCES

Pupils have access to eClips and Xello to help them research their career ideas and build their career personal career management table.

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 well-being; 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.

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

Religious Studies

Spanish

The Extended Project
Qualification

BTEC Business

CTEC Digital Media

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)



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