The King Edmund School runs a number of courses which are suitable for students of all abilities. Whether a student prefers a more hands-on approach to learning, or excels at academic study, there is something for everyone.

Student applications are dealt with on an individual basis and take into account the aptitude and attitude of the student, as well as their exam results.

This guide provides you with information on all the courses available at KES starting in September 2019.

For further information on any of the courses or our Sixth Form, please visit the Sixth Form section on our website or call Mrs Griffiths on 01702 545771.
The construction sector employs around two million people - over 8% of the UK workforce. Anyone choosing a construction career will be joining one of Britain’s largest and most exciting industries. It means joining a team of specialist people who are working together to build a strong long-lasting future. Importantly the wide variety of skills required by the industry means there is an interesting range of career opportunities available.

What will I learn?
In this one year course you will learn the theory of construction and develop your skills in carpentry, joinery, basic electrical installations and building maintenance. All learning is applied to the world of work where students progress through a series of topic areas. Four units will be practical in nature and the outcomes, along with written notes, will provide the evidence of learning. It is essential that you show rapid progression from one unit to the next since each unit builds upon the last.

How will I be assessed?
The assessment decisions for six units are made by the teacher (internal assessment) and two units by external examination. This means you will need to undertake a considerable amount of study, including home reading and revision in preparation for each examination. The completed final assessment will then be graded with either a pass, merit or distinction.

What can I do next?
The Level 2 Construction course is designed to provide an effective progression into further studies, full time work, apprenticeships and also provides a stepping stone towards a professional qualification such as a degree. Career opportunities include architectural technician, buyer, CAD operative, estimator, site engineer, carpenter and joiner, demolition operative, floor layer, painter and decorator, plant mechanic, plasterer, roofer, scaffolder, shop fitter and stonemason.

Ross
Studied Construction at KES, now in an apprenticeship in the construction industry.
This is a vocational qualification that is suitable for people who have a desire to work with the elderly, children, and those with disabilities and learning difficulties, in a range of caring environments. You will gain a broad-based knowledge about different care settings and the needs of a range of service users. You will develop knowledge and skills to enable you to work in the caring sector, which can provide opportunities for you to make a difference to people’s lives in a positive way.

What will I learn?
The course will allow you to participate in a wide range of activities to aid your learning, such as visits to and speakers from a range of public and private sector organisations in the health and social care industry. You will also gain valuable insight from guest speakers who are current and caring sector employees. You will learn about communication in the health and social care sector and how to cater for individual needs. Part of the course involves looking at what good practice looks like in health and social care and how care values underpin good values within the sector. Life events can be expected and unexpected; you will explore the impact of life events and the type of support available to help people manage them. Understanding and recognising the impact of these major life events is an important part of a number of roles in the sector. You will undertake a work placement during this course which will give you practical hands-on experience. You will also study an additional course designed to develop your work skills.

How will I be assessed?
You will be assessed through a variety of methods, including discussions, presentations, practical demonstrations, workbooks and written tasks as well as external examinations.

What can I do next?
Successful completion of the course will allow you to progress onto the level 3 qualification in Health and Social Care or CACHE Level 3 in Childcare. Alternatively, this course can lead to employment in a range of health or caring related professions.

Ella
Studied Level 2 Health and Social Care at KES, now studying Level 3 Health and Social Care at KES.
This is a vocational qualification that will give you the opportunity to gain the skills, discipline and knowledge required to equip you for a career in public services like the police, fire service, ambulance service, prison service, army, Royal Navy, Royal Air Force or marines.

What will I learn?
This course gives you an introduction to the role and work of the public services and what employment in the public services actually entails. You will also learn about crime and its effect on individuals. The course will allow you to participate in a wide range of activities to aid your learning, such as outdoor pursuits, fitness training and team-building events. You will also gain valuable insight from current and former public services employees. Part of the course involves studying the fitness requirements for the public services and you will be introduced to the basic body systems that are associated with health and fitness. Trips and exhibitions will form a key part of the outdoor activities programme, and as part of the course you will have the opportunity to attend various trips and expeditions, including army days, multi-day expeditions, teambuilding events and visits to local public services. You will also study an additional course designed to develop your work skills.

How will I be assessed?
You will be assessed through a variety of methods, including discussions, presentations, practical demonstrations, workbooks and written tasks as well as external examinations.

What can I do next?
Successful completion of the Level 2 course will allow access to the Level 3 Public Services course or to apply for relevant job roles in the public services.
Early Years Education and Care  Level 2 CACHE

The course focuses on understanding how children from birth to five years grow and develop. It explores key developmental milestones and how to encourage play and learning.

What will I learn?
The course will introduce you to the role of an early years practitioner and nurture your skills to be used in placement. You will study a range of child-based subjects including legislation, safeguarding, play, observation, planning and healthy development for children from birth to five years. You will attend a range of work placements where you will gain professional practice skills and complete a mandatory 250 placement hours.

How will I be assessed?
You will complete a range of assignment tasks to build up a portfolio of evidence and gather hours of work from a placement to gain your final qualification.

What can I do next?
Successful completion of the Level 2 course combined with GCSE English and Maths at a C grade will enable you to progress on to the Level 3 Diploma in Childcare and Education. If you have a passion for childcare this will lay the foundations for further study to enable you to gain ‘Early Years Educator’ status; alternatively you will be able to access the workforce as an assistant in a childcare setting.

Chayma
Studied Early Years Education and Care at KES and returned and completed her Level 3.
Applied Science (Forensics) is a multidisciplinary subject which includes biology, physics, chemistry and sociology topics with forensic applications. It will allow you to develop key skills for working in a scientific laboratory environment.

What will I learn?
This course will suit you if you have an interest in all of the sciences and it will give you valuable vocational-based experience. You will study a mixture of biology, chemistry, physics and sociology with forensic applications. The core content is divided into six units covering: fundamentals of science, report writing, working in the science industry, safe working practices in the scientific workplace, analytic techniques, separation of chemical substances, checking purity of substances, gathering forensic evidence, analysis of biological and chemical evidence from a simulated crime scene, reporting the analysis of evidence from a simulated crime scene, understanding the process of protein synthesis, investigating the process of cell division in eukaryotic cells, understanding the principles of Mendelian genetics and investigating the nature of inheritance, applying basic techniques of DNA technology including DNA extraction, gel electrophoresis, amplification of DNA and transformation of cells, theoretical explanations of crime, the role of the media in our perception of crime and the aims of state penal policy related to crime theories.

How will I be assessed?
All work is internally assessed via the completion of assignments.

What can I do next?
With this course you may progress straight into employment in roles such as sterile services technician, assistant technical officer or scientific laboratory technician. Alternatively, you may wish to progress further into higher education and could gain the skills to play an active role within the criminal justice system in a career that may include scenes of crime officer, criminologist or criminal psychologist.

Chelsea
Studied Applied Science at KES, now studying Forensic Science and Criminal Investigation at the University of Central Lancashire.
This course will serve the needs of a wide range of learners who are either employed or seeking employment in private, public or voluntary organisations in the business and finance sector. It will be particularly relevant to those working or interested in working in the financial services industry.

What will I learn?
The aim of this course is to give students knowledge and understanding of the financial services industry. Students study the different ways individuals and businesses make the most of their money by investing and managing it efficiently using the services of a range of financial institutions and their products. There is also consideration of financial regulation, ethics and trends.

How will I be assessed?
Assessment is all through coursework. This six-unit specification requires students to develop their ability to acquire a range of important and transferable skills including data skills, presenting arguments, making judgments and conducting research.

What can I do next?
BTEC Personal Finance combined with other BTECs or A Level subjects will give you the freedom to continue with a wide range of studies or find employment in a variety of professions. If you have a particular passion for Business and Finance it will lay the foundations for further study (university) and careers in business and finance (for example work in the financial or banking industry sectors, accountancy, marketing and management).
The music industry has a cool, glamorous image and a lot of people want to work in it, so you will have to work hard and make sure you stand out from the crowd. Btec Music will help you in this respect; you will develop your skills/knowledge of the industry through a variety of units including performance, composing and music theory.

What will I learn?
You will learn a variety of different skills necessary to work in the Music industry. This will be done by the delivery of a variety of different units. There are three mandatory units, and one optional unit is picked;

Unit 1: Practical Music Theory and Harmony (M)
Unit 2: Professional Practice in the Music Industry (M)
Unit 3: Ensemble Music Performance (M)
Unit 4: Composing Music (O)
Unit 5: Music Performance Session Styles (O)
Unit 6: Solo Performance (O)
Unit 7: Improvising Music (O)

How will I be assessed?
The Ensemble Music Performance unit is assessed externally and the remaining units are assessed internally. These internally assessed units are subject to standards verification process, where a sample will be selected and sent off to be moderated.

What can I do next?
This course is excellent preparation for higher education courses in music or other industry based qualifications, but is equally valuable for non-specialists as a second or third area of study. The experience gained on this course will be invaluable to anyone who wishes to work in the Music industry in various capacities. However, most people study music because they love it and you will have plenty of practical opportunities to develop your talents.
Information Technology

Level 3 BTEC Subsidiary Diploma or Diploma

IT is an acronym that stands for Information Technology. The best way to think about IT is to consider all the uses of digital technology that already exist to help individuals, businesses and organisations use information. IT covers any product that will store, retrieve, manipulate, transmit or receive information electronically in a digital form. These include personal computers, digital television, email, robots. Therefore, IT is not only about the use of digital data, but it is also concerned with the way these different uses interact with each other.

What will I learn?
If you enjoy working with IT and you are interested in graphic design, website creation, computer systems, or animation then this is the course for you. You will learn about the practical application of Adobe Software and learn the skills used in the IT industry today. Building a portfolio of evidence will help you to develop your written, analytical and evaluative skills through the course. This course provides an excellent transition, bridging the gap between GCSE and Degree. It builds on the skills, knowledge and expertise gained at GCSE and introduces you to key skills for working in an IT environment. It introduces new skills in hardware and software which will springboard you in success in future IT roles. The Units are varied and will give you lots of opportunities to learn new skills and try out software that you are unfamiliar with.

How will I be assessed?
There are six or twelve units (depending on Subsidory Diploma on Diploma entry), that are completed for this qualification. They are all equally weighted and half are completed during each year. Your work is 100% coursework for all the units and is internally assessed by teaching staff at KES. There are no examinations for this course.

What can I do next?
Whether you intend studying IT or computing at a higher level (university), or will be moving straight into employment, BTEC Level 3 IT is an excellent qualification to have to help you move towards a career as a software developer, networks manager, systems analyst, or work in areas such as developing computer games and IT communications and support.

Haydn
Studied BTEC IT, now studying Banking and Finance at Anglia Ruskin University.
The hospitality industry is a universal industry. In any country you visit you will find examples of the hospitality business in hotels, motels, cafés, pubs, restaurants, bars, sports and football clubs and even cruise liners. Therefore, it is not surprising to know that hospitality is one of the largest job providers in the world. By having relevant skills and knowledge in this industry, you are opening the doors to work.

What will I learn?
The course will show you how diverse the industry is and provide them with an insight into what the hospitality industry can offer. It is a course which involves both theory and practical work. The Diploma course is comprised of 13 units, whilst the Subsidiary Diploma course comprises of seven units. The units taught include asian food, contemporary world food, customer service, e-business, finance as well as marketing and promotional skills. During the course you will be given the opportunity to plan, organise and stage a school-based hospitality event; you will gain planning skills in the development of menus; in addition, you will have the opportunity to develop practical skills in preparing, cooking and presenting locally, nationally and globally available commodities - following safe, professional and hygienic practices. You will investigate how and where to obtain commodities required for the production of dishes, their seasonal availability, origins, cost and how to order them. Finally, you will develop skills involved in evaluating and suggesting changes for future improvement.

How will I be assessed?
BTEC Hospitality is a non-examination course. All work is assessed by internal moderation.

What can I do next?
The BTEC Hospitality Level 3 course combined with other A Level subjects will give you the choice to continue with a wide range of studies at university or find employment in a variety of professions. Career opportunities include being a baker, barista, bar person, butcher, catering manager, cellar technician, chef, consumer scientist, counter service assistant, food processing worker, food scientist-food technologist, housekeeper, kitchen assistant, kitchen manager (head chef), kitchen porter, mobile catering assistant, publican- licensee, restaurant manager or owner, vending machine operative or waiting staff.

Lily
Studied Hospitality at KES, now studying Events Management at the University of Essex.
Level 3 BTEC Subsidiary Diploma or Diploma

This course is designed to provide a highly specialist, work-related qualification in a range of vocational sport sectors. It provides learners with the knowledge, understanding and skills to prepare for employment in the sporting industry.

What will I learn?
This course covers a wide spectrum of the sporting industry from media in sport to anatomy and physiology of the body. The subsidiary course is studied over two years. The topics covered are principles of anatomy and physiology in sport, the physiology of fitness, assessing risk in sport, fitness testing and programming, sports development, fitness testing for sport and exercise and current issues in sport. The diploma course covers the same topics as well as an extra six. These are leadership in sport, outdoor and adventurous activities, sports coaching, practical team or individual sports, exercise, health and lifestyle and rules, regulations and officiating in sport.

How will I be assessed?
This is coursework based, with no examinations. Every unit is graded as a pass, merit or distinction and all the units are then added together to give a final grade. The whole two years must be completed to gain any grade. Full marks in every unit can lead to a distinction* at subsidiary and a double distinction* at diploma level.

What can I do next?
This course has been developed to provide you with the opportunity to achieve a nationally recognised Level 3 vocationally-specific qualification. This then gives you the opportunity to enter employment in the sport and active leisure sector such as personal training, coaching and leisure centre management, or to progress to higher education vocational qualifications such as BTEC higher nationals in sport or related areas.
The NHS employs 1.4 million people, social care, 1.6 million and together one in ten of the working population. This course will provide learners with the opportunity, through applied learning, to develop the core specialist knowledge, skills and understanding required in the health and social care sector.

What will I learn?
This qualification isn’t just about caring for babies or the elderly and the ill; it will provide learners with the tools to progress into higher education on a health and social care-related programme such as Health and Social Care. Learners will take either six or twelve units (depending on whether they are taking the single or double qualification). These units will give learners an understanding of health and social care in the wider contexts of different environments and settings where care takes place, the importance of effective communication and legislation in health and social care, and how to deliver a person-centred approach in the care given. Students will learn by applying their skills, knowledge and understanding to tasks or activities that are relevant to what happens in health, social care and child care workplaces and demonstrate how to be proactive in promoting healthy lifestyles and support to individuals within the sector. Having an appreciation of what happens in the workplace will also help prepare learners for continuing their education in this sector.

How will I be assessed?
Whether on the single or double programme, students will be assessed mainly through written assignments and some externally set examinations. All assessments are graded Pass, Merit or Distinction.

What can I do next?
Progress into Health and Social care related apprenticeships or employment, or university degrees such as Midwifery, Nursing, Social Work or Early Childhood Studies.
Childcare and Education  

This course will provide you with opportunities to gain knowledge and experience of working with children from birth to five years. It will give you access to the workforce with Early Years Educator status.

What will I learn?
The course prepares you to work with children from birth to five years and gain knowledge of children aged 5-7 years. You will study a range of child-based subjects including child development, children’s health and well-being, understanding additional needs, international perspectives and supporting emergent literacy and numeracy skills with children. You will attend a range of work placements where you will gain professional practice skills and complete a mandatory 750 placement hours.

How will I be assessed?
You will complete a range of assignment tasks to build up a portfolio of evidence; you will also submit two externally set assessments and gather hours of work from a placement to gain your final qualification.

What can I do next?
Successful completion of the Level 3 Diploma in Childcare and Education will enable you to access higher education or progress into a variety of childcare roles, such as: practitioner in a day nursery, practitioner in a nursery school, practitioner in reception classes in a primary school, pre-school worker, home based child carer or nanny.

Khadijah  
Studied Childcare and Education at KES, now studying Children, Schools and Family at the University of Lancashire.
Art A Level

Fine Art allows students to develop a range of practical and creative skills. It develops creativity and independent thought whilst allowing students to express themselves visually.

What will I learn?
During the A Level course you will explore a whole range of different media, techniques and processes. You will be encouraged to create personal imaginative work. You must have strong time management skills and be a very self-motivated student. Students can develop personal responses to ideas, observations, experiences, environments and cultures in practical, critical and contextual forms. First hand research is key to becoming a committed Art A Level student. You will be expected to be hands-on with your learning, such as visiting galleries and places of interest at the weekend and stretching your sources of research. You will also be expected to attend life drawing classes and different workshops outside of school hours.

How will I be assessed?
You will be assessed on your personal portfolio (coursework) which you will create over two years. You will undertake a practical 15 hour exam at the end of the first year which will be internally assessed. You will then complete your official 15 hour externally set assessment at the end of the second year. You will also be expected to complete a written investigation as part of your personal portfolio (3,500 words).

What can I do next?
Being creative can open many doors for you and there is a wealth of different university courses to suit your personal interests. Every good company realises that creativity and good design are important factors in generating new business too. Many students go on to further education in art and design, then aim to join the world of advertising as graphic designers, architects, illustrators, typographers or become gallery curators, textile designers and fashion designers.
Biology is concerned with understanding the wonders of life, from exploring the complex and diverse relationships within ecosystems to how chemicals create and maintain cells.

What will I learn?
The course will help nurture a passion for the subject and lay the foundations for further study. We are passionate about practical work and know that it is at the heart of good science and therefore you will have a wide range of practical activities to complete. The core content is divided into eight units covering: biological molecules, cells, organisms exchanging substances with their environment, genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms, energy transfers in and between organisms, organisms responding to changes in their internal and external environments, genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems and the control of gene expression.

How will I be assessed?
Examinations take place at the end of the course and will total six hours. The examinations will test your knowledge, understanding and practical skills. There is no coursework or controlled assessment.

What can I do next?
A Level Biology combined with other A Level subjects will give you the freedom to continue with a wide range of studies or find employment in a variety of professions. If you have a particular passion for biology it will lay the foundations for further study (university) and careers in biological sciences (for example work in the pharmaceutical industry, clinical and health professions, conservation and forestry, and medicine).
Business studies develops a critical understanding of organisations, the markets they serve and the process of globalisation. It also studies the behaviour of businesses from a range of perspectives and their ability to meet society’s needs and wants.

What will I learn?
In this course, you will develop practical applications of business concepts and reinforce understanding of key theories and concepts. You will also gain an active rather than passive understanding of the subject and its key areas, which include marketing and people, managing business activities, business decisions and strategy and global businesses.

How will I be assessed?
The assessment is focussed on developing your ability to acquire a range of important and transferable skills including data skills, presenting arguments, making judgments and conducting research. It is assessed through examinations which take place at the end of the course and will total six hours. This A Level has no coursework or controlled assessment.

What can I do next?
A Level Business combined with other A Level subjects will give you the freedom to continue with a wide range of studies or find employment in a variety of professions. If you have a particular passion for business it will lay the foundations for further study (university) and careers in business and finance (for example the financial industry, banking industry, accountancy, marketing and management).
Chemistry is the study of the nature, properties, and composition of matter, and how these undergo changes. It covers a wide range of subjects such as geology (geochemistry), astronomy (astrochemistry), and physics (physical and analytical chemistry). Everything you hear, see, smell, taste, and touch involves chemistry and chemicals (matter). Hearing, seeing, tasting and touching all involve an intricate series of chemical reactions and interactions in your body.

What will I learn?
A Level chemistry will broaden your range as a student and help you develop very essential skills that can be applied well in other areas; these include problem solving, numeracy and practical skills, as well as developing a broad scientific background. Through this course, the relevance of chemistry to our everyday lives will be realised as it will be delivered in a range of different contexts, conveying the excitement of contemporary chemistry. We place particular emphasis on an investigational and problem-solving approach to practical work.

There will be a wide range of practical investigations and experiments to complete. The content you will study includes development of practical skills in chemistry, storylines (‘Elements of Life’), developing fuels, elements from the sea, ‘The Ozone Story’, ‘What’s in a Medicine?’, the chemical industry, polymers and life, oceans, developing metals, colour by design, chemical literacy and practical endorsement.

How will I be assessed?
Examinations take place at the end of the course and will total six hours. The examinations will test your knowledge and understanding, practical skills and application of your knowledge. They will include short answer, calculations and extended writing.

What can I do next?
Studying A Level Chemistry will give you the opportunity for further education towards a range of careers including medicine, pharmacy, veterinary science, forensic science, chemistry, biochemistry, food science and nutrition, nursing, optometry, software engineering and chemical engineering. Other careers and courses that find chemistry desirable include food technology, physiotherapy, radiography, paramedical courses, law and zoology. Having an A Level in Chemistry is a very desirable trait and is a highly respected qualification.
Computer Science A Level

Computer Science covers the theory and practical side of developing programs for computers. Every day we use computers, however rarely do we think about how they actually work. This course aims to give the learner a fundamental understanding of how computers work and also how to develop and implement code for computers. This course would be suitable for a learner who is extremely interested in the more technical side of ICT with good problem solving skills.

What will I learn?
The Computer Science A Level has been designed to enable students to learn a wide range of fundamental programming skills. Using a variety of programming languages, students will learn to create computer programs and work through all stages of the computer programming cycle. Students will learn how to analyse a problem, design their program around solving this, program the solution and test the outcome. Students will also learn about a range of Computer Science theory topics. These would include: Fundamentals of programming, fundamentals of data structures, theory of computation, characteristics of contemporary processors and more.

How will I be assessed?
You will be assessed in three different components. The first is a coursework component that will make up 20% of your A Level grade, the remaining two components are externally assessed exams which make up the remaining 80% of the assessment.

What can I do next?
With an A Level in Computer Science, you could go on to get a job or further training in the following areas: Computer programming, IT consulting, Web designer, Web developer, Systems Developer, Systems analyst, Multimedia Programmer, Games Developer, Database administrator and a range of others.
This course will give you a variety of opportunities to develop your dramatic and theatrical skills in both devised and scripted work whilst developing your understanding and appreciation of the significance of social, cultural and historical influences on the development of drama and theatre.

What will I learn?
You will practically explore two contrasting plays analysing how different staging methods and performance techniques can be used to present texts in performance. The knowledge and understanding gained through your analysis will be applied to two performances for an audience; the first being either a monologue or a duologue and the second being a group performance. You will also work as part of a group to devise your own original piece of performance for a specific target audience. Visits to professional theatre performances will also be used to develop your understanding of how production ideas and dramatic elements are used by directors, performers and designers to communicate meaning to an audience.

How will I be assessed?
Throughout the course you will be assessed through a variety of methods: three performances, two of which take place in front of an external examiner, one written portfolio and a written examination.

What can I do next?
A Level Drama combined with other A Level subjects will give you the freedom to continue with a wide range of studies or find employment in a variety of professions. If you have a particular passion for drama and theatre it will lay the foundations for further study (university) and careers in a whole host of industries including: theatre, television, events management, teaching, law, recruitment and human resources.
Economics

Economics is the study of choice and decision making in a world of limited resources. Economics is divided into two distinct sections; microeconomics and macroeconomics. Microeconomics examines the choices faced by individual consumers, firms and markets, while macroeconomics examines the economy as a whole by investigating choices made by governments and multinational companies. We have a strong passion for applying current economic events and knowledge into our teaching practices and appreciate how this develops students’ understanding, so you will be expected to show an interest in international and European current affairs.

What will I learn?
The course will help develop an interest in the economic environment and lay foundations for advanced study in university or in the business world. You will learn how people make decisions. For example, how do consumers choose how to spend their money? Why do businesses set their prices at a particular level? How can the government stop a business polluting the environment or improve the general economic performance of the country? You will learn about economic problems such as debt and unemployment, and gain a sense of how decisions made in other countries impact on the UK economy overall.

How will I be assessed?
Examinations take place at the end of the course and will total six hours. They will consist of three two hour paper of equal weighing. These examinations will test your knowledge, application, analysis and evaluation of various economic theories and principles. There is no coursework or controlled assessment.

What can I do next?
A Level Economics combined with other A Level subjects will give you the opportunity to continue with a wide range of studies at university or find employment in a variety of careers. Careers in economics include: business, management, accountancy, banking, insurance, investment, as well as in government agencies, consulting and manufacturing.
We spend every day of our lives surrounded by language. From the informal chats on the bus to the high pressure university interview, from the quick text message to the classic novel, we all use language to forge our own identities and to shape the world around us. In this course, we will begin to make sense of the huge variety of language that surrounds us and understand more about how it works.

What will I learn?
The course is designed to help you make sense of the language we encounter across a range of literary and non-literary texts by using key literary and linguistic frameworks to analyse them individually and explore connections between them. There will be opportunities to share your ideas with your teachers and fellow students through lively classroom debate. You will also work on developing your written style so that you are able to express yourself clearly and concisely. A range of theatre and other extra-curricular trip opportunities will also complement your studies. You will study a range of texts across the course, following broad units of study such as ‘Remembered Places’, ‘Imagined Worlds’, ‘Writing about Society’ and ‘Dramatic Encounters’.

How will I be assessed?
Examinations will take place at the end of the course and will total five hours and thirty minutes. The papers will test your ability to think critically, express a clear argument effectively and explore links between literary and non-literary texts. There will also be the opportunity to develop more extended skills of analysis in a coursework unit which will be worth 20% of your final A Level grade.

What can I do next?
Combined with other A Level qualifications, an A Level in any English subject is held in high regard by employers from a variety of professions. If you have a particular passion for English, this course can pave the way to a variety of degree options including creative writing, journalism and cultural studies as well as the more traditional English subject family options. Possible career paths include journalism, publishing and teaching, as well as advertising and public relations.
For over 2,000 years, poetry, drama and prose have helped make sense of and indeed shape the world around us. This rich heritage of literary texts and the lessons they have to teach us about our own experiences is what forms the basis of study in English literature.

What will I learn?
The course is designed to help you think critically about the texts you read and to develop your own responses to a range of plays, poems, novels and short stories. There will be opportunities to share your ideas with your teachers and fellow students through lively classroom debate. You will also work on developing your written style so that you are able to express yourself clearly and concisely. A range of theatre and other extra-curricular trip opportunities will also compliment your studies. You will study texts from the tragic and crime genres including: *Tess of the D’Urbervilles, Death of a Salesman, Othello and Brighton Rock.*

How will I be assessed?
Examinations will take place at the end of the course and will total five hours and thirty minutes. The papers will test your ability to think critically and to express a clear argument effectively. There will also be the opportunity to develop more extended skills of analysis in a coursework unit which will be worth 20% of your final A Level grade.

What can I do next?
Combined with other A Level qualifications, an A Level in any English subject is held in high regard by employers from a variety of professions. If you have a particular passion for English, this course can pave the way to a variety of degree options including creative writing, journalism and cultural studies as well as the more traditional English subject family options. Possible career paths include journalism, publishing and teaching as well as advertising and public relations.
Languages currently play an increasingly important role in the world of work, especially considering the closer links we now have with our European neighbours as a result of membership of the European Union.

What will I learn?
The course will help you develop your general study skills, but most of all A Level French helps students develop confident, effective communication skills in French and a thorough understanding of the culture of countries and communities where French is spoken.
You will learn about the current affairs and topical issues in French speaking countries such as the immigration, the cinema industry, music, cybersociety etc. You will develop a spontaneous use of the language, hold conversations and debate about a variety of issues. You will understand written and spoken French in a variety of contexts and genres, using authentic materials. You will also study a film and a book in depth which you will write essays on. While studying French, students have the opportunity to go on work experience in France to boost their speaking and listening skills.

How will I be assessed?
Examinations take place at the end of the two-year course. The examinations will test your understanding of spoken and written French, your writing skills and your speaking skills on a broad variety of topics. There is no coursework or controlled assessments but in the second year of the course you will choose and present a topic related to French speaking countries for your speaking examination.

What can I do next?
Sound knowledge of a language can lend an international dimension to any other qualification. Language qualifications will help you become more competitive in future job applications: where two candidates have similar degrees, the one with an A Level in a language will be more attractive to an employer, particularly in the case of a multi-national company. Languages are viewed as a desirable qualification by many employers, showing good communication skills and open doors to a variety of careers in the media, marketing, tourism, interpreting and public relation.
Geography is concerned with addressing key ideas and debates in our world today such as climate change, globalisation, urban regeneration and management of the world’s resources. Students will explore a range of issues and examine potential solutions to them. You will benefit from having an interest in the world around you, be it curiosity about how a landscape has formed, or an interest in how a community might be affected by trans-national corporations. You need to be prepared to leave the classroom and see for yourself what is going on.

What will I learn?

The world we live in is changing, geography allows you to see why and how it is changing. It can enhance communication skills, literacy and numeracy, IT literacy, spatial awareness, team working, problem solving and environmental awareness. You will study global themes, including globalisation and climate change. You will discover how your own actions can relate to the wider world, be it your local area or a country far away. You will have an opportunity to undertake geographical research, including fieldwork. You will investigate topics such as tectonic hazards, climate change futures, globalisation and superpowers. You will also develop practical research skills. Students take part in a residential field trip to Dorset to collect data for their individual investigation.

How will I be assessed?

There are three examinations, which will all be taken at the end of the two year course. You will also need to complete an independent investigation.

What can I do next?

An A Level in Geography opens doors! You will find that studying geography is a brilliant step towards a wider range of higher education courses and/or employment opportunities. Geographers can go on to study higher level courses, including foundation degrees, undergraduate degrees and/or BTEC higher nationals. Geographers can also go into a wide range of jobs, including advertising, education, marketing, environmental management and retailing.

Callum

Studyed Geography at KES, now studying Geography at the University of Portsmouth.
Have you ever wondered how we got to where we are today? Where does your iPad, XBox or PS4 originate from? The History department believes that through our knowledge and understanding of the past, we can better understand the present. This is especially important as you gain a greater understanding of the world around you - locally, nationally and internationally.

What will I learn?
At A Level, you will develop skills in extended writing, reading, source analysis, and critical thinking. You are encouraged to think, argue and question so you can reach your own reasoned judgements about the past. Topics covered will be ‘American Dream: The USA, c1917-96’, ‘South Africa, 1948-94: from apartheid state to rainbow nation’, ‘The British Experience of Warfare 1790–1918’ and a coursework unit based on the outbreak of the First World War.

How will I be assessed?
Examinations will take place at the end of the course and will total six hours for three units. The fourth unit, coursework, will be a topic-based essay; you will complete a 3000-4000 word essay examining the controversies about the outbreak of World War I in 1914. This is an internally assessed unit (20% of A Level).

What can I do next?
This course will complement other A Level courses, which could lead onto higher education in history or related subjects such as English, American studies, politics, archaeology or more general courses. With further training, you could go into a job related to history by seeking employment in areas of heritage, such as working for a museum, or within education as a teacher. You could also go straight into a job as the A Level is a recognised qualification that will help you develop the skills, understanding and knowledge that many employers across a range of industries are looking for.
Law is concerned with understanding the English legal system, how laws are made and operate, and the practical application of legal rules to problem scenarios.

What will I learn?
In the first part of the course, you will develop knowledge and understanding of the legal system, including the law-making process in Parliament and the role of magistrates and juries. The second introduces aspects of criminal and civil law. You will examine a range of non-fatal offences against the person, court procedure and sentencing and then learn how to identify negligence, take a claim to court and calculate an award of damages. In the second year the course develops the knowledge and skills already acquired, although the focus moves to fatal offences against the person, a range of defences and the law of contract. Students must be able to identify and analyse offences in a scenario. In addition, you will study the views of philosophers such as Aristotle, Bentham and Rawls.

How will I be assessed?
The assessment is via written, final examinations including multiple choice questions, short answer and extended writing questions totalling 6 hours which will test students’ knowledge, understanding and ability to apply legal rules to problem scenarios. There is no coursework or controlled assessment.

What can I do next?
As an A Level Law student, you will gain a range of transferable skills that will make you attractive to university admissions tutors and employers alike. Indeed, each year, a number of KES law students go on to read law at university. A Level Law is accepted by all universities that offer law degree courses. It is particularly useful to students who wish to pursue a career in the legal profession, the police force, business, banking or the civil service.
Core Mathematics is a new course which puts mathematics in context. It’s intended for students who are keen to extend their GCSE Higher maths skills for future study or work but aren’t planning on taking mathematics at A Level. The course is designed to equip learners to develop and apply real-world maths skills. For those planning to study subjects such as Science, Geography, Business, Economics or Social Sciences at A Level, this course will complement and support these subjects by helping to refine and develop maths skills.

What will I learn?
Mathematics in Context is different from GCSE Maths and forms a progression from what was learnt at GCSE. During the course, students will look at how to use and apply maths in many different situations. This will include reading articles that involve interpreting data and mathematical information, all from relevant and interesting sources. The course follows four content strands with relevance and application to a wide range of areas of study and employment — applications of statistics, linear programming, probability and sequences and growth.

How will I be assessed?
The course will be assessed through two papers taken in the summer of Year 13. There will be a 60:40 split between Comprehension and Applications.

What can I do next?
The Level 3 Certificate in Mathematics in Context will equip students to develop and apply real-world maths skills which will support progression to a wide range of university courses, into employment, or higher apprenticeships in a wide range of industry sectors or professional training. The qualification is recognised in UCAS points as similar to an AS Level and so will count for those who go onto consider studying at university.
Mathematics has proven incredibly useful in just about every field of human endeavour. It is used in science and exploration, in business and government, in industry and forecasting. It provides excellent training for the mind, requiring precise and accurate work, clear logical thought, and problem-solving skills.

What will I learn?
This course will prepare students for higher education and stimulate the interest of keen mathematicians. It features modules such as pure mathematics, algebra, geometry, calculus, trigonometry and numerical methods. This enables students a fuller appreciation of mathematics and a wider range of skills to take into further study or the jobs market.

How will I be assessed?
The course is assessed through four papers taken in the summer of Year 13. There is a 50:50 split between compulsory and optional (e.g. decision mathematics) elements.

What can I do next?
A Level Mathematics will allow you to follow a wide range of further education courses as well as prepare you for the world of work. A Level Mathematics is useful for those wishing to pursue careers in areas such as business and finance, science, IT and engineering.
If you are a good mathematician who enjoys complex problem solving and exploring new mathematical ideas, further mathematics will provide an additional challenge to the A Level Mathematics course. Further mathematics will broaden and deepen your understanding of the subject.

What will I learn?
Further Mathematics is particularly useful if you plan to take a degree in Mathematics, Physics or one of the engineering subjects. Mathematics is one of the best subjects to develop your analytical, research and problem solving skills. Not only will studying maths help give you the knowledge to tackle scientific, mechanical, coding and abstract problems, it will also help you develop logic to tackle everyday issues like planning projects, managing budgets and even debating effectively.

How will I be assessed?
Further Mathematics is assessed through a final exam and has a 50:50 split between compulsory and optional elements.

What can I do next?
If you plan to study mathematics at university, taking further mathematics will be a major advantage. Universities value A Level Further Mathematics very highly and it gives students a head start to their undergraduate studies.
Physical Education is concerned with understanding how the body and mind works, enabling us to be able to perform simple everyday activities to performing at the highest sporting levels. It will provide opportunities for students to become physically confident in a way which supports their health and fitness.

What will I learn?
This course will help further your drive to understand physical education. It allows the theoretical aspects to be explored in a more thorough and detailed way. This increase in knowledge is interesting and enables a broad and deep understanding of all areas to lay the foundations for further study. The core content is divided into 3 sections in Year 12: physiological factors affecting performance, psychological and socio-cultural themes in physical education, and performance in physical education. These areas are then studied in further depth in year 2.

How will I be assessed?
You will have two 75 minute examinations in Year 12 and in Year 13 you will have one 2 hour paper and two 1 hour papers. These examinations will test your depth of knowledge and understanding in both short and long answer questions. In both years you are graded on your own performance in one sport and evaluating, appreciating and planning the improvement of performance.

What can I do next?
A Level Physical Education provides a suitable foundation for specialist study in both physical education and sports studies in higher education and it is also a suitable qualification for other areas of study. The course provides an excellent foundation for candidates intending to pursue careers in teaching and coaching, sports development, the leisure industry, recreational management, health, leisure and fitness and professional sport.
Physics is the study of matter and energy and how they interact with each other. Physics goes from a grand scale (the Universe), to the very smallest parts of the building blocks of everything (atoms), and then even smaller than that... to look at the particles that build up the nucleus. Physics is interwoven into virtually every aspect of our lives. Every electrical device you use, including mobile phones, depends upon basic physics concepts and principles. Every mechanical device, including cars, also relies on applications of physics. Your body has developed sense organs that take into account and adapt to the behaviour of sound, light, heat, electrical and mechanical systems. You are a biological machine adapted to be successful in a world where physical principles permeate everything.

What will I learn?
Through the study of physics, you will gain awareness of the on-going development of new ideas and of the application of in-depth knowledge of well-established concepts. There will be a range of activities including practical investigations, and the use of IT modelling and simulations. The course is divided into ten units covering: mechanics and further mechanics, electric circuits, waves, particle nature of light, electric and magnetic fields, gravitational fields, nuclear and particle physics, space and thermodynamics.

How will I be assessed?
Examinations take place at the end of the course and will total six hours. The examinations will test your knowledge and understanding. They will include short answer, calculations and extended writing. Practical skills will also be incorporated into the examinations.

What can I do next?
Studying physics opens up a range of opportunities in further education and in career paths, from predicting climate change to designing computer games. Some of the career choices made by A Level physicists include the huge array of engineering courses available, medicine, architecture, telecommunications and space exploration. The range of opportunities is not limited to science. Many business and law courses, for example, will accept physics as an entry qualification.
Great design is an investment in innovative thinking, positioning, branding and communication that can create value for businesses, give them a competitive advantage, develop customer trust/loyalty and increase market share. A Level Product Design will encourage students to take a broad view of design and technology, develop their capacity to design and make products and appreciate the complex relations between design, materials, manufacture and marketing. In short it could be the launch pad to an exciting, challenging, rewarding and varied career.

What will I learn?
During the course you will learn about a wide range of materials and components (woods, metals, polymers, smart materials, adhesives, etc), design and market influence (environmental sustainability, ergonomics and anthropometrics, consumer safety), processes and manufacture (computer aided design and computer aided manufacture). It should be noted that there is an element of mathematics in the examination theory. You will have the opportunity to specialise in one innovative and well-made product. As part of the course you may also be encouraged to enter a local design competition and have an opportunity to view a variety of design projects made by students from across the county.

How will I be assessed?
The course is assessed by examination and coursework. The coursework contributes 50% towards the final grade over the two years, this recognises the importance of practical work within this subject. There is one examination at AS Level and two at A2 Level.

What can I do next?
A Level Product Design has proved invaluable when combined with other A Level subjects, it will allow students to access a wide variety of higher education courses (including design and architectural courses) and should help them gain employment. Career opportunities related to design and technology are numerous; they are found across a wide variety of industries ranging from architecture, agriculture, engineering and construction to healthcare and the food and drink industries.

Georgie
Studied Product Design at KES, now studying Architecture at the Solent University in Southampton.
A Level Psychology is considered a valuable subject by a wide range of industries and it will give you a good understanding of how scientists investigate psychological phenomena. Essentially, psychology studies human behaviour, and analyses its real world applications. It involves study of theory, empirical evidence and practical applications. If you have a combination of curiosity and scepticism, enjoy research and are concerned about the welfare of others, then psychology is ideal for you.

What will I learn?
The course features a set of underpinning concepts whereby you will come to understand how scientists investigate psychological phenomena. The course content is divided into 3 units which include areas such as memory, attachment, approaches in psychology, issues and debates, relationships, aggression and stress. Approaches in psychology will include learning about psychologists such as Freud and Bandura, and finding out about Pavlov's dogs! In issues and debates you will explore various topics such as whether we have free will over our decisions in life or whether our actions are pre-determined. Other issues are explored including ethical issues in research and gender/culture bias. At certain times you will get the opportunity to carry out research.

How will I be assessed?
Examinations will take place at the end of the course and will total six hours. The examinations will test your knowledge, understanding and application of psychological theories and principles. There is no coursework or controlled assessment.

What can I do next?
A Level Psychology is a science and as such, when combined with other A Level subjects, will give you the option to continue with a wide range of studies or find employment in a variety of professions. You may choose to continue to higher education or seek employment in a public service profession. Psychology can help your career either directly or indirectly. If you wish to become a psychologist or mental health worker, this A Level is of direct value. But students who want a career in any of the caring services, or in marketing or business will find an understanding of psychology useful. Psychologists work in areas as diverse as education, law, counselling, management, journalism, advertising, sports, and human resources.
A Level Religious Studies will provide you with the opportunity to investigate and have your say about some of the most highly-debated issues in the world today. It engenders critical thinking and rigour in the search for truths in uncertain fields. It encourages philosophical thought, decision-making skills, collaboration and independent working skills and the search for compromise and finding resolutions that work. It creates opportunities for young people to develop their skills of dialogue, interpretation and analysis in a coherent context.

What will I learn?
This course involves studying 3 modules: ‘Philosophy of Religion’, ‘Religious Ethics’ and ‘Developments in Religious Thought’. You will have the opportunity to discuss and analyse a range of key questions: ‘Can we prove the existence of God?’ ‘Was the world created or did it evolve?’ ‘Is there life after death?’ ‘How do I decide what is right and wrong?’ ‘Can cloning or IVF ever be a good thing?’.

How will I be assessed?
Assessment is via final, written examinations (totalling about 6 hours). These examinations will assess knowledge, understanding and an ability to fully analyse an argument. There is no coursework or controlled assessment.

What can I do next?
You do not have to want to be a vicar to take religious studies. This course will encourage you to develop the critical and evaluative skills which will enable you to progress to higher education to study a wide range of courses. A qualification in this subject is valuable in teaching, journalism, medicine, law and any other area where you come across people and their ideas.

Hannah
Studied Religious Studies at KES, now studying Law at the University of Hertfordshire.
Do you often find yourself asking – but why? A Level Sociology is the study of society. Sociology is an exciting, radical and critical subject. It is about digging below the surface, to find out what is really going on. Sociology is a challenging subject, where you will have the opportunity to develop your thinking skills. During the course you will use the sociological tools of theory, research and concepts to help you evaluate the world around you.

What will I learn?
The aims of the course are to encourage you to develop a broad knowledge and a critical understanding of the contemporary and changing world that surrounds you. A Level Sociology will nurture your inquiring mind and give you the opportunity to debate with like-minded people the issues that impact our daily lives. You have the opportunity to understand and evaluate sociological methodology through having an active involvement in the sociological research process. The central focus of A Level Sociology is the study of UK society today; this will be taught and understood through a variety of inspiring topics which include, culture and identity, beliefs, education, crime and theory and methods. In addition, you will have the opportunity to understand and debate the significance of social issues, such as conflict and consensus, freewill and control, and the role of values in society.

How will I be assessed?
Examinations take place at the end of the two year course and will comprise three two hour examinations. The examinations will test your knowledge and understanding, as well as your ability to accurately apply and evaluate key sociological concepts and theories. There is no coursework or controlled assessment.

What can I do next?
A Level Sociology will complement other A Level courses, which could lead onto higher education in sociology or more general social science courses. With a specialised degree or further training, you could go into a career related to social sciences such as social work, counselling, research, journalism or teaching. You could also go straight into employment, as the A Level is a recognised qualification that will help you develop the skills, understanding and knowledge of society that employers across many industries appreciate and require.
Would you like to gain an AS Level qualification by researching something you are really passionate about? The EPQ allows you to embark on a largely self-directed project. By taking responsibility for the choice and design of your individual project you will also nurture a number of skills that are valued by both universities and employers.

What will I learn?
The Extended Project will develop and extend from one or more of your study areas and/or from an area of personal interest or activity outside your main programme of study. It will be based on a topic chosen by you and agreed by a supervising teacher. You will, with appropriate supervision, choose an area of interest and then draft a title and aims of the project. After approval, you will plan, research and carry out the project. Extended projects can take various forms, such as an extended essay, creative writing, creation of an artefact or a performance-based activity.

How will I be assessed?
Once your project is completed, you will deliver a presentation to a specified audience and provide evidence of all stages of project development and production for assessment. There is no examination.

What can I do next?
More and more universities are welcoming the EPQ as an indicator of realised skills and potential ability in the fiercely competitive arena of selection to the courses they offer. Universities welcome applications from students who have taken the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ). They see this as positive evidence of motivation to explore a subject in greater depth, as well as an opportunity for further development of analytical, critical thinking and independent research skills. If your results fall short of your university offer by a small margin, (for example one A Level grade), your extended project result may be taken into account by the university.