The Crossley Heath School

SIXTH FORM

Prospectus 2017-18

Welcome

When you join us in the sixth form at Crossley Heath you join a community which offers a warm welcome, high academic standards and a wealth of opportunities.

We are committed to supporting you to achieve your aspirations, so we tailor our offer to meet the needs of individual students, offering a wide range of traditional and modern subjects. Through our extensive enrichment programme, 'Getting Ahead', you can explore new experiences, discover new talents, develop your skills and have some fun!

We believe that being a sixth form student is not just an important step on the way to further study or careers, but is an important transition to enjoying a well-rounded adult life. Students are treated as adults and are expected to be responsible for themselves, moving towards the maturity and independence of adulthood with the guidance and support of our experienced staff team.

Lynnette Cassidy MBA

At Crossley Heath, you will build strong relationships with staff. We are proud of the excellence of our teaching and our highly respected subject specialists will support you to engage in innovative and collaborative approaches to learning.

Whilst the majority of our students choose to go on to university when they leave us, we are by no means a 'university factory' and encourage and support our students to explore alternative pathways into further study or employment.

Becoming a sixth former at Crossley Heath means you will join a very special community of students drawn from a wide range of schools across the local area and beyond. You will join a thriving sixth form which celebrates its proud heritage, embraces the present, and looks to the future.

Head Boy, Matthew Shaw: *I have loved my time at Crossleys and staying on at sixth form was a natural step for me. Rugby is one of my passions and the trip to Australia was fantastic. I have also enjoyed developing my personal skills and mentoring some of the younger students.*

Head Girl, Sammum Mumtaz: *It's the people that make Crossley Heath – it's like being part of one big family with such a wide mix of students. I have learned a great deal from being part of the Enterprise activities and thanks to this, and the support of my teachers, I am looking forward to studying Economics at university.*

Meet the 6th Form Team

We aim to make your 6th form experience as fulfilling and successful as we can. We will give you the confidence to move on from sixth form into the competitive world of today as a well-rounded individual with impressive results.

Your academic achievement, progress, guidance and support will involve a variety of staff members who work together as a team to ensure that you achieve to your potential. The whole team looks forward to working with you over the coming months as you make your decisions.

STEVE DONLAN
Assistant Head (Post 16)

ELAINE MASTERS
Sixth Form Admissions/Assessment Manager

RALPH PALLISTER
Enrichment Co-ordinator

JANE RUDMAN
Achievement Leader/ Careers Co-ordinator

GAYNOR FISHER
Sixth Form Administrator (Pastoral)

ANDREW COOTE
UCAS Co-ordinator

GLYN HIRST
KS5 Careers Co-ordinator

Why Apply to Crossley Heath?

- **An Outstanding 6th form in all ways**
- **Good quality facilities**
- **Excellent pastoral support and guidance**
- **Opportunity to take part in some exciting trips and visits**
- **Excellent links with the local business community**
- **Comprehensive careers advice**
- **Excellent Post 18 progression**
- **Wide ranging enrichment programme**
- **Vibrant student life**
- **An exciting opportunity to combine academic and vocational qualifications**

Step up to Sixth Form

Crossley Heath offers students the ideal blend of academic quality and social experience. We know it can be a significant step and our aim is to help you make the move from GSCE to A Level as smoothly as possible. Moving into 6th form is an exciting opportunity to take greater responsibility for your own learning and focus on the subjects which really interest you.

We have 263 students enrolled in our 6th form. Each young person follows a personalized programme of study consisting of 3 or 4 A Levels, enrichment and personal development time as well as individual study.

Our transition programme starts early in the recruitment process with an opportunity for you, and your parents, to meet with staff and current students on dedicated evenings held during the Spring term. This is an opportunity for you to discuss subject choices and start to get a feel for what it will be like to study with us.

A thorough induction programme focuses on the transition to Post 16 study and teachers will help you to establish the foundations of success. We include school based activities and team building which helps focus attention on building friendships and settling in to Crossley Heath whilst having some fun.

For those who wish to go to university, our UCAS support programme has an excellent reputation and the overwhelming majority of our sixth formers get into their first choice university, including a very high proportion to Russell Group.

For those who choose not to go to university, you are in a strong position to secure high quality training programmes with employers and higher level apprenticeships are an increasingly attractive option for some of our students. Throughout Year 12 and Year 13 all students receive careers information, education and guidance so you are well prepared to make the right decision for your future. You will also have the opportunity to carry out a work placement for a week to experience the world of work in an environment of your choosing. The school has recently regained the Careers Quality Standard which is in recognition of the high standard of information, advice and guidance available for our students.

Our aim is to inspire all individuals to choose the correct pathway for them and we have a track record of 100% participation into Post 16 education and into higher education or career pathway.

Outside of the Classroom

There is a great deal more to Sixth form life than working in classrooms, laboratories and libraries. There is a range of activities designed to support and supplement the academic programme. This includes a number of residential field courses in subjects such as Geography and Biology. Foreign language exchanges and cultural visits to Berlin are very popular choices. Your academic learning is supported by guest speakers and visits to theatres, concerts and lectures. The Young Enterprise scheme enables students to launch and run their own company and develop all the expertise of being successful entrepreneurs. Crossley Heath is noted for its sporting prowess and is listed in the top 20 schools for sporting achievement. In addition to representing the school in sports there are many sporting opportunities at House level.

Real Leadership Opportunities

Student leadership is a real strength at Crossley Heath. All sixth form students are encouraged to take an active leadership role within the school whether that be school or House official, charity representative or member of the student council. All roles help develop personal skills and confidence and we see our students really flourish with this responsibility.

Sixth formers also undertake major roles in organising the Houses for various competitions which include drama, music and literacy as well as a wide range of sports. Such opportunities help students to develop invaluable skills for later life, whether that be in higher education or a career.

Developing Skills and Experiences for your Future

In addition to academic study and extra curricular activities you will have the opportunity to take part in the GAP Programme (Get Ahead Programme), which runs mainly on a Wednesday afternoon. This is specifically designed to develop you as a person and give you the opportunity to broaden your experiences and enhance your skills.

There are lots of opportunities to do volunteer work within our local community. Strong links have been made for our students to volunteer within our local primary schools and Ravenscliffe Special School helping students with special projects or reading and writing strategies. For those interested in working with the disadvantaged or vulnerable members of our society opportunities exist to volunteer to work with the Alzheimer's Society, Queens Road Neighbourhood Centre or at the St Augustine's Centre. Working within the NHS Hospitals, Square Chapel or the Police Explorers offer alternative ways to develop skills and experience.

There also many opportunities within school from taking part in Young Enterprise, Community Sports Leaders Award, the Duke of Edinburgh Awards and the NCS to various in-house sporting activities.

Various other opportunities include being involved with school productions, House music, peer mentoring, Charity Committee/Interact, Amnesty International, debating, music groups and choir, science clubs and basic first aid courses.

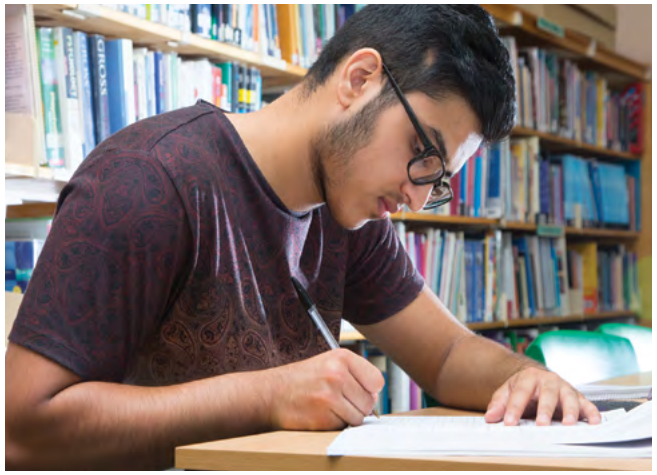
Students can also choose to take the EPQ – the Extended Project Qualification (AQA). This is a personal research project of your choice under the guidance of a tutor and many universities look favourably on the EPQ due to the independent nature of the project. Your chosen subject matter can be creative, commercial, vocational or academic and success attracts UCAS points (70 for an A*).

Choosing your Subjects

Firstly, you must choose a basic package of three or four A level subjects.

To decide which ones, you may need to ask some questions and do some research:

- **Which subjects will I enjoy the most?**
- **Which subjects will allow me to achieve the best grades?**
- **What sort of career do I want?**



Entry Requirements

- **A minimum of six GCSEs at grade 4 or above which must include both English and Maths at grade 4 or above.**
- **Of these at least four must be at grade 6 or above and include the subjects to be studied at A level.**
- **Equivalent vocational qualifications may be accepted.**
- **Full course, Level 2 qualifications, including OCR national qualifications will count as one GCSE. Applied subjects at GCSE and BTEC qualifications will only count as one GCSE.**
- **To study Biology, Physics or Chemistry, students must have a grade 6 in Double Science GCSE or 6s in the separate sciences they wish to study. Applicants must also meet the supplementary requirements listed in this document.**

How to Apply

Application forms are available by contacting the school, or alternatively you can download the form from our website (www.crossleyheath.org.uk). Completed forms should be returned to the school no later than the closing date of Wednesday 28th February 2018. Following receipt of applications, you will be invited to attend a meeting with members of the sixth form team where you will be able to discuss your application and course choices.

What to Study

A wide ranging curriculum is available at Crossley Heath and there is a combination of subjects to suit everyone. A detailed description can be found in the following pages.

In addition, it may be possible for students to follow an 'A' Level course in a subject not listed above but offered at another school. Please talk to us if you would like to take a subject not listed in our current offer. We have an excellent track record of partnerships with other providers and will do all we can to secure your subject choice.

There is also the opportunity for students to combine A level subjects with vocational study in conjunction with Calderdale College. This presents an exciting opportunity for students at Crossley Heath to develop practical skills for the world of work whilst maintaining a high academic level of education.

Please note that we reserve the right to withdraw or alter our curriculum offer depending upon student demand.

Maths and Sciences
Biology
Chemistry
Mathematics
Further Mathematics
Physics
Psychology

Modern Foreign Languages
French
German

Creative and Expressive Arts
Music
Fine Art
Photography
Physical Education

English
English Language
English Literature

Humanities
History
Philosophy
Geography
Religious Studies

Technology and Enterprise
Business Economics
Business
Computer Science
Product Design
Design Engineering

Maths & Sciences

BIOLOGY

Description of course

At Crossley Heath we study AQA Advanced Biology Specification. Biology affects all of us, it plays a crucial role in our everyday existence. Advances in new technologies, such as cloning and recombinant DNA have made this discipline more exciting than ever.

Methods of Study

We have a cohesive, collaborative teaching team in Biology, committed to providing students with the best possible learning experience. Biology, like all sciences, is a practical subject and lessons will reflect this. The residential fieldtrip in y12 is an essential part of the course and used to underpin much of the work in Ecology. There will be a mix of context based learning and traditional content based learning supported by active teaching methods including group work. Due to the demanding nature and high chemical content of this course it is recommended that students should also study A Level Chemistry. A student who is not studying A Level Chemistry would need to have proven competence in this area at GCSE.

Assessments

There is no coursework on this course. However, performance during practical work will be assessed. There are three exams at the end of the two years for A-level, all of which are two hours long. At least 15% of the marks for A-level Biology are based on what students have learned in practical work.

Career Applications

Popular degree courses taken by students who have an A-level in Biology are: Biology, Psychology, Sport and Exercise Science, Medicine, Anatomy, Physiology and Pathology, Pharmacology, Toxicology and Pharmacy, Chemistry. Studying A-level Biology at university gives you all sorts of exciting career options, including: Doctor, Clinical molecular geneticist, Nature conservation officer, Pharmacologist, Research scientist, Vet, Secondary school teacher, Marine biologist and Dentist. For those wishing to follow biological career pathways, A Level Chemistry is advised.

Entry Requirements

A grade 6 in Chemistry and a grade 6 in Biology

or

A grade 6 in Core Science and a grade 6 in Additional Science (Double Science).

CHEMISTRY

Description of course

At Crossley Heath we study OCR Advanced Chemistry Specification A (H432). The course is made up of 6 modules: 1. Development of practical Skills in Chemistry; 2. Foundations in Chemistry; 3. Periodic table and energy; 4. Core Organic Chemistry; 5. Physical Chemistry and Transition Elements and 6. Organic Chemistry and Analysis.

Methods of Study

Each class is taught by two experienced A level Chemistry teachers who teach their specialist areas. Content is taught through theory lessons and practical work, which will most often be paired work. Students will be expected to spend one hour of independent learning time for every one hour lesson they are taught. Independent learning will consist of tasks set by the teacher, reading around the subject and personal revision in preparation for tests and exams.

Assessments

At the end of Year 13 all students will sit three written examinations: Component 01 will test modules 1, 2, 3 and 5; Component 02 will test modules 1, 2, 4 and 6 and component 03 will test content from all 6 modules. There is also a Practical Endorsement which is reported separately from the A level qualification and is evidenced by keeping a lab book.

Career Applications

Chemistry is the most specified A level by universities. If you are thinking of studying any science-based course at university look carefully at the entry requirements to see if you will need to study A level Chemistry. Recently our students have gone on to study subjects such as Pharmacy, Dentistry, Medicine, Veterinary Science, Optometry, Physiotherapy, Biomedical Sciences, Environmental Geography, Health and Social Care and Biochemistry.

Entry Requirements

A grade 6 in Chemistry and a grade 6 in Mathematics

or

A grade 6 in Core Science and a grade 6 in Additional Science (Double Science) and a grade 6 in Mathematics.

MATHEMATICS AND FURTHER MATHEMATICS

Description of course

Maths is a very popular subject at Crossley Heath. We have 200 students taking the subject at A Level with 10 teachers delivering all aspects of the Key Stage 5 curriculum. We follow the Edexcel specification.

Methods of Study

A typical lesson is classroom based, with some traditional teaching, some groupwork and discussion, some time spent working through questions and some time looking at applications of core maths concepts to real-life problem solving. Maths students have 4 ½ hours of lessons per week, whilst Further Maths will have 8 hours of lessons per week. Students will be given 4 hours of homework a week (8 hours for Further Maths) outside the classroom to encourage them to learn independently. Teacher support is always available with regular revision sessions and a thriving student mentoring scheme.

Assessments

For Mathematics students, all exams will be taken at the end of Year 13. There will be 3 equally weighted papers which will all be 2 hours long: Pure Maths 1, Pure Maths 2 and Applied Mathematics (50% Statistics, 50% Mechanics).
Further Mathematics students will sit the above in Year 12 and will then sit A Level Further Mathematics in Year 13, where students will sit four 1 ½ hour papers: Further Pure Mathematics 1, Further Pure Mathematics 2, and 2 of Further Pure Mathematics 3, Further Pure Mathematics 4, Further Statistics 1 and Further Mechanics 1.

Career Applications

A Level Mathematics and Further Mathematics can open doors. Throughout the Mathematics programme, students are encouraged to think logically, practically and analytically. These fundamental Maths skills are useful across all kinds of disciplines and careers.
A-level Mathematics and Further Mathematics is a good choice for students considering higher education in any Science or Maths-based course, ranging from: computer science, biochemical sciences, natural sciences, engineering, medical sciences and psychology to statistics, economics, accountancy, management and actuarial science.
Career opportunities for students who study Mathematics include: computer science, industry, accountancy, finance, economics, insurance, healthcare, medicine, veterinary science and engineering.

Entry Requirements

Students require a grade 6 or above in GCSE Mathematics. To take Further Mathematics students require a grade 8 or a 9 in GCSE Mathematics.

PHYSICS

Description of course

The current course follows the Salters Horners' context-led approach complimented by additional materials and significant staff experience of teaching the more traditional concept-led course. This approach begins with the consideration of an application that draws on many different areas of physics, and then moves on to the laws, theories and models of physics underlying this application.
In year 12 the course includes the study of mechanics, materials, waves, electricity and the wave/particle nature of light. The year 13 course then includes the study of further mechanics (momentum and circular motion), electric and magnetic fields, and particle physics. Students also study thermal energy, nuclear decay, oscillations, astrophysics and cosmology.

Methods of Study

Students will be introduced to the context and then study the relevant physics. This allows students to apply physics to everyday situations and gives them an appreciation of its importance in society and relates it to the needs of people. Lessons will consist of discussion, problem solving and practical work. Students should be confident mathematically and be prepared to take an active interest in the subject, including reading more widely about related topics. Due to the demanding nature and high mathematical content of this course it is strongly recommended that students should also study A Level Mathematics. A student who is not studying A Level Mathematics would need to have extremely strong mathematical ability. It should be noted that Physics and Engineering cannot be studied in Higher Education without A level Maths.

Assessments

The students completing the full A Level course will sit three examination papers in the summer of year 13. The students are also assessed on their practical ability through completion of set practicals throughout the course and are awarded a pass/fail practical assessment grade at the end of the A Level.

Career Applications

Physics is a highly regarded subject in terms of demonstrating strong numerical, logical and problem solving skills. In addition to careers directly related to physics and research, it is also a compulsory 'A' level for studying Engineering at university. The subject is also an excellent part of preparation for medical and finance based careers.

Entry Requirements

A grade 6 in Physics and a grade 6 in Mathematics

or

A grade 6 in Core Science, a grade 6 in Additional Science and grade 6 in Mathematics.

PSYCHOLOGY

Description of course

Psychology is one of the most popular A-level courses, both in the school and across the country. At AS students will explore how the memory works and apply this to real life cases. Students also look at a range of studies and how they relate to topics such as abnormality, stress, attachments and conformity. Students will be able to carry out their own studies in school and a trip to the zoo will allow a range of behaviours to be observed and analysed.

At A2 students get to deepen their understanding of different topics e.g. Aggression, Addiction and Schizophrenia. This is further explored in an overnight trip to London where students will engage in workshops involving hypnosis and delve into the world of serial killers with an exciting Jack the Ripper walking tour.

Methods of Study

Lessons focus on specific topics and include a range of methods such as discussion, group work, independent learning, presentations, peer and self-assessment and tackling exam questions. Documentaries and films are also used to introduce and embed key topic areas.

Assessments

The course is exam based with four exams at the end of the two year course.

Career Applications

Studying Psychology opens up opportunities for a number of different university courses and a wide variety of employment. Jobs directly related to Psychology include: Clinical psychologist, Counselling psychologist, Educational psychologist, Forensic psychologist, Occupational psychologist and Sport and exercise psychologist. Jobs where Psychology would be useful include: Advertising account planner, Advice worker, Law, Counsellor, Human resources officer, Market researcher and Psychotherapist.

Entry Requirements

A grade 5 in Mathematics and a grade 5 in English.

Modern Languages

MODERN LANGUAGES FRENCH & GERMAN

Description of course

The A-Level French and A-Level German courses both study a varied and interesting range of topics from two distinct themes: Social Issues and Trends and Political, Intellectual and Artistic Culture. Within these themes students study issues ranging from The Digital World to Cultural Life and from Multiculturalism to Politics. An integral part of the A-Level course is the study of literature and film in the chosen language and, in Year 13, an individual research project, allowing students to pursue a subject of personal interest relating to the chosen language. There is thorough coverage of the structures and grammar of the language throughout.

Methods of Study

Teachers in the MFL Department are innovative and experienced subject-specialists who use a variety of authentic and up-to-date resources. There is an emphasis on discussion, reading, debating, vocabulary building, listening, translation, grammar and essay-writing. Students also have access to the MFL Department's iPads, Kerboodle and subscription websites to support their learning.

Assessments

Both the A Level French and A Level German courses are assessed at the end of Year 13 via three assessments: a Listening, Reading and Translation paper, a Writing paper including an essay on the set text and film and a Speaking examination.

Career Applications

Languages can be helpful in lots of different jobs from teaching, translating and interpreting to computer games designer, engineer and journalist. Many employers reward people with language skills with extra salary because they know that they are useful in today's international business world.

Entry Requirements

A grade 6 at GCSE is required.

Creative & Expressive Arts

MUSIC

Description of course

The new A level music course covers a wide range of different styles of music. The course is split into three areas – Performing, Composing and Appraising. The performing module requires students to perform solo and/or ensemble pieces totalling 8 minutes. Credit is given for difficulty and students entering the course at grade 5 standard or above (whether they have taken exams or not) should be able to do well in this area. The composition module requires students to compose 2 compositions, one of which is either a free composition or a composition to a loose brief from the board (a film music piece, for example). The other is a piece which will assess a particular technique (such as arrangement or harmony). The appraising module consists of an end of course exam which consists of 6 Areas of Study with 3 set works in each. The Areas of Study are:-

Popular music and jazz • Instrumental music • Vocal music
New directions • Fusions • Music for stage and screen

Methods of Study

Lessons will be classroom based with students having the opportunity to be involved in practical activities when appropriate. There will be opportunities for students to work in group situations and also to complete long term, self-led coursework projects. When doing compositional work students will work using Sibelius, Cubase or their instruments. Note reading is a useful skill to have.

Assessments

Assessment is at the end of Year 13. Performing is worth 30% of the mark, composing is worth 30% of the mark and appraising worth 40% of the mark.

Career Applications

Music A level can lead to a variety of careers such as performing, music journalism, teaching, music therapy, composer, music production, music publishing, or music software development. It is also an excellent preparation for progression to any musical HE route. Music is an excellent complementary subject for students choosing scientific or humanity subjects and it equips students with a broad range of skills Universities and employers value highly.

Entry Requirements

A grade 6 in GCSE Music required. Students should be able to perform their main instrument to at least grade 5 standard. Other qualifications such as a BTEC distinction in Music may be considered on a case by case basis. In exceptional circumstances, students who can demonstrate considerable music ability may be considered for this course without having studied Music at GCSE level.

FINE ART AND PHOTOGRAPHY

Description of course

Fine Art and Photography run as two separate A-levels at Crossley Heath but are delivered at the same time. In Fine Art, you will build on your GCSE experience learning to develop a range of disciplines (drawing, painting, printmaking, photography and image manipulation) to a much deeper and more sophisticated level

In Photography, students will experience a range of photographic media, techniques and processes, both in traditional film and chemical photography, and also in digital photography and the use of image manipulation. The work is centred on a variety of themes including landscape, portrait, abstract and still life photography.

Both Fine Art and Photography students will be taught about the history of Art in order to develop a deeper level of appreciation of the context of Art and how it has developed over hundreds of years.

Methods of Study

In each course, students will experience a full range of teaching and learning activities from workshop sessions, peer-assessment and group critique activities, to individual practical sessions, one-to-one tutorials and taught critical studies lessons. Students will be given more independence in order to create and develop their own personal investigation.

Assessments

The course is completed over a 2 year programme. The start of the year will comprise of a diagnostic introductory course that will help to develop skills from GCSE to A-level standards. Component 1 (a practical investigation with an integral written assignment) will be initiated after Christmas in Year 12 (Fine Art) and after February half-term (Photography) and will last through to January in Year 13. Component 2 is the externally assessed project; students will produce another project at the end of Year 13 that will culminate in a 15-hour examination. Component 1 is worth 60% of the final mark and component 2, 40% of the final mark. There is no written exam in Fine Art or Photography.

Career Applications

There are a variety of career paths available such as graphic illustration, gaming design and development, architecture, advertising, publishing, film and TV, and design and fashion. The Creative Industry is the largest growing sector of the UK economy with 2.62 million jobs and this is expected to continue to increase with a high demand for highly skilled practitioners.

Entry Requirements

For Fine Art a grade 6 in Art at GCSE is required. For Photography, students do not need to have studied Art or Photography previously, although examples of photography work will be required.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Description of course

This is an advanced course for students who have academic ability, an interest in sport and an interest in improving their own performance.

In the theoretical modules students will consider the science, psychology and sociology of sport. It is important, therefore, that students have an interest in studying these areas with regard to their impact on sporting performance. An ability to interpret data is important.

For the practical modules students will need to be a good sports performer but just as importantly should be willing to work on improving their performance. Students should be playing at least one sport outside of school and they should be involved with a club/ team.

Methods of Study

Lessons will comprise of 3 different units that include anatomy and physiology, skill acquisition/ psychology, and socio cultural studies. Students will be taught using a variety of classroom based activities. Some topic areas lend themselves to practical group work or independent learning.

Assessments

Component 1: Physiological Factors affecting Performance These modules cover Anatomy and Physiology Exercise, Physiology and Biomechanics.

Component 2: Psychological Factors affecting Performance These modules look at Skill Acquisition and Sports Psychology.

Component 3: Socio-cultural and Contemporary Issues These modules consider the development of contemporary sport, changes in society and the impact of technological influences.

Component 4: Performance within Physical Education. This comprises of an internal assessment with external moderation. Learners will be required to undertake two parts. Part 1: Performance/coaching of a sport or activity. Part 2: The Evaluation and Analysis of Performance for Improvement of a sport or activity.

Career Applications

An A Level in PE will support students in the study of a degree or diploma in the following areas: Exercise Physiology, Sport and Exercise Science, Health Studies, Leisure Management, Nutrition and Exercise Science, Sports Rehabilitation and Therapy, Sports Management and Business, Physiotherapy, Podiatry, Sports Psychology, sports technology. Career routes can be varied but may include PE teacher/Sports Coach, Management of sports industry, Nutritionist and Dietician, Sports and Exercise Physiologist, & Psychologist, Physiotherapy, Sports Technology, Sports Journalism, Sports Development.

Entry Requirements

A grade 6 in GCSE PE or a grade 6 in Biology with strong practical PE skills.

English

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Description of course

Do women and men speak differently? Does having a regional accent affect an individual's chance of success? Does a person's occupation impact upon their language choices? How do people belonging to different social groups use language to create a sense of solidarity whilst alienating others? How do children learn to speak, read and write? These are just some of the language topics and debates students explore whilst studying the AQA English Language specification at A level. In addition, students will become familiar with a range of linguistic frameworks in order to aid their analysis of a range of texts. The development of an understanding of grammar is a key element of this course.

Methods of Study

Lessons are classroom based and students will learn though a variety of activities, including analysis of case studies, group work and presentations. Essay writing and analysis are a key component of the course.

Assessments

At the end of Year 13 students complete the following assessments: Paper 1 – Language, the individual and society (40%). Paper 2 – Language diversity and change (40%). For the coursework component, (Language in action), students complete an investigation and a piece of original writing with a commentary (20%).

Career Applications

The careers which this subject can lead to are varied and include journalism, advertising, PR and speech therapy. The analytical and communication skills developed by students are sought by most employers.

Entry Requirements

A grade 6 in GCSE English Language.

ENGLISH LITERATURE

Description of course

If you love nothing better than curling up with a good book, then this is the course for you. During the two year English Literature course, students will immerse themselves in a variety of literary forms, including prose, drama and poetry, from a range of time periods. Students will develop a variety of skills such as the ability to analyse and evaluate different readings of set texts alongside developing insight into how the cultural/ contextual factors of a text impact upon both writer and reader. Many of the skills demonstrated at GCSE will also be further developed, such as the ability to analyse how writers utilise structure, form and language in order to create meanings/effects.

Methods of Study

Lessons are classroom based with opportunities for paired/group work and presentations. Essay writing and analysis are key components of the course. Outside of lessons, students will be expected to carry out independent reading of the set texts alongside relevant literary criticism

Assessments

In Year 13 students complete the following assessments:

Component 1 – Poetry (eg Rossetti, Duffy, Larkin)

Component 2- Drama (eg King Lear, Dr Faustus, Enron)

Component 3 – Unseen texts (prose and poetry).

Component 4 – Prose study. Non-exam assessment: 2500-3500 word assignment.

Career Applications

Due to the analytical and communication skills which this course develops, students will have a variety of career paths available to them. Careers which the course can lead to include: publishing, journalism, writing, teaching, PR and law.

Entry Requirements

A grade 6 in GCSE English Literature

Humanities

HISTORY

Description of course

The A-level History course consists of the following units:- Component 1: Breadth Study-The Quest for Political Stability: Germany, 1871–1991. The course is in two sections which focus on the political, social and economic history of Germany:- EMPIRE TO DEMOCRACY, 1871–1929; THE IMPACT OF NAZISM, WAR AND DIVISION 1929–1991. Component 2: Depth Study -Wars and Welfare: Britain in Transition, 1906–1957. The course is in two sections which focus on the political, economic and social history of Britain during a time of great change- SOCIETY IN CRISIS, 1906–1929 and THE EMERGENCE OF THE AFFLUENT SOCIETY 1929–1957. Component 3: Non Examined Unit (NEA) – Tudors 1485-1603. This unit is the coursework element which is completed under teacher supervision and marked internally. It develops the students' understanding of the nature of historical debate and interpretation and requires the student to carry out independent research and develop a convincing and well-argued judgement.

Methods of Study

The course is classroom based and focuses closely on the examination requirements of writing essays and the critical use of source material. Students can expect a variety of activities:- lectures, group presentations, paired activities, independent research tasks. Students are expected to spend time at home extending their knowledge with wider reading and reviewing the work done in lessons.

Assessments

In Year 13 the course will be examined by 2 papers in the summer and a coursework element which is completed by Easter of the final A level year.

Career Applications

The A-level History course will help students develop useful skills in critical thinking, evaluation, analysis and interpretation. These are qualifications with currency, which will be valued in higher education and/or employment. History provides an excellent foundation for a number of popular careers including journalism, law and business.

Entry Requirements

A grade 6 in GCSE History.

PHILOSOPHY NEW

Description of course

We are delighted to be able to offer this high quality course at The Crossley Heath School as, at present, we are the only school within Calderdale and Kirklees delivering this fascinating A Level. If you are interested in this course then you will need to possess an open, analytical mind and be willing to explore a variety of theories about the truths we take for granted. An outstanding skill in reasoning and interpreting and evaluating ideas is also essential, to grasp the demands of this course.

The course focuses on four themes, Epistemology, (the theory of knowledge); Moral Philosophy, covering a range of ethical theories and applying them to situations such as, deception, lies, simulated killing and eating animals; the third theme focuses on Metaphysics of God, including the problem of evil and the concept of God; the fourth theme focuses on the Metaphysics of Mind, covering ideas such as philosophical zombies and dualism.

Methods of Study

There are a variety of learning opportunities within Philosophy, focussing on the Socratic Method, group work, research and presentations. Reflecting on thinking and developing 'thought experiments', is also an integral element of learning in this subject.

Assessments

The course is exam-based with two 3-hour exams for the A Level. It is also possible to study this course at AS Level only, as an addition to three other A Level subjects, there is one 3-hour exam for the AS course.

Career Applications

By studying this subject you are demonstrating that you can reason, critically analyse and reach decisions at the highest level of thinking. This is a challenging course and is very highly regarded by all HE institutions and employers.

Entry Requirements

Grade 5 in English is accepted on this course as an ability to study text and write logically and lucidly is essential.

GEOGRAPHY

Description of course

The Geography course will allow students to investigate real world, relevant issues and places in a critical way. It will develop knowledge of locations, places, processes and environments.

The A Level Geography course will cover both the physical and human environments and the complex interaction of processes that shape our world. It will also, importantly, show the applied side of the subject- how human intervention affects the environment and how people adapt and mitigate the effects of processes on their environment. This is complex and dynamic and varies from place to place depending on people's resources, technology and culture. There is plenty of room for discussion and extended research which will help students become independent thinkers and learners. It will also include a variety of field work opportunities, including a five day residential and a number of day trips.

Methods of Study

Human and Physical Geography will be taught separately, lessons will include a variety of styles for example: group work, debating, decision making activities, independent research and teacher led activities. It will also take advantage of the greatest classroom in the world – the nature world (through a variety of fieldwork opportunities).

Geography students will study the following topics:

Physical Geography	Human Geography
Water and Carbon Cycle	Global systems & global governance
Coastal systems and landscapes	Changing places
Hazards	Contemporary urban environments

Assessments

Students will sit two examinations at the end of Year 13:

Physical Geography (40%) 2 hours 30 minutes

Human Geography (40%) 2 hours 30 minutes.

In addition to this, students will produce a report about a geographical investigation based on the fieldwork conducted (20%) 3,000 – 4,000 words.

Career Applications

This course provides students with the knowledge, understanding and skills to pursue a whole range of careers. It is seen as a facilitating subject as it links well with other humanities subject whilst also supporting the natural sciences.

There are many careers open to students studying Geography including: Advertising, Education, Environmental management, Finance, Law, Marketing, Retailing, Sales and Social/health services.

Entry Requirements

A grade 6 in GCSE Geography is required.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Description of Course

Do you enjoy using analytical skills, undertaking discussions and debates and working in groups? Would you like to develop outstanding independent research skills? If the answer is yes, then an A Level in RS is the course for you. This course will give you a range of exciting opportunities to gain a deeper understanding of the world and reflect on social issues which are relevant to you.

The course focuses on the themes of Philosophy, such as predestination and free will, the problem of evil and the existence of God. In the theme on Religion and Ethics, we cover the influence of ethical thought on sexual ethics, animal experimentation, the use of nuclear weapons and issues regarding immigration. The third theme is a study of Buddhism in the modern world.

Methods of Study

A variety of study methods are used including teacher led presentations, group led presentations, discussions, research using textbooks and ICT.

Assessments

This is an exam-based course. At AS there are 3 exams, one for each component of the course, each exam is 1h 30m duration. At A Level there are 3 exams, one for each component of the course, each exam is 2 hours in duration.

Career Applications

This course will help you to develop essential skills, which can be used in careers such as:

Law (A Level RS is a recommended qualification for those who wish to study Law)

Management

Medicine

Journalism

Teaching

By studying RS at this level you have displayed to employers and higher education establishments that you have a genuine interest in society and social behaviour; that you mastered educative and decision-making skills and that you possess a flexible mind which is open to logical arguments.

Entry Requirements

To take-up this popular and interesting subject, you will need to have a grade 6 in RS or at least a grade 5 in English. This A Level is highly regarded by all universities and many students, who take RS, also opt for Oxbridge. This is a very successful subject, with results being in the top 10% of the country and 80% of students gaining an A grade.

Technology & Enterprise

BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS

Description of Course

Business Economics is suitable for students who want to explore ways in which daily choices made by individuals, businesses and national governments influence our lives. Economics is the study of how scarce resources are used to satisfy the needs and wants of society. This course studies the key elements of a pure Economics A-level, whilst also considering how businesses react to changing economic circumstances. The topics studied are directly related to real life issues and often feature in news bulletins and newspapers on a daily basis.

In the first year, Theme 1 and Theme 2 will introduce students to the nature of economics, how markets work and why they fail, consumer choices and the role of businesses/enterprise in the economy. The role of banks and credit in society, elements of business finance and accounting and life in a global economy are also considered. In the second year, Theme 3 and Theme 4 explore the impact of globalisation on consumers, firms and the labour market. Students will also investigate the role of the government and economic policies in seeking to stimulate the economy, influence choices and address market failure. There is also detailed consideration of the implications of the UK decision leave the European Union and the causes and consequences of the global financial crisis.

Methods of Study

Students in Economics need to be opinionated whilst also being able to appreciate contrasting points of view. The course provides a variety of learning opportunities which include participating in discussions and debates on a broad range of topical issues and monitoring national and international economic developments. Students are actively encouraged to embrace independent study and demonstrate a strong willingness to accept stretch and challenge in the way they approach their studies. Handling and analysing numerical information is also a key requirement for the course; 15% of the overall grade based on the interpretation of financial and economic information.

Assessments

All of the A Level exams take place at the end of year 2. There are three exam papers, each lasting 2 hours. Paper 1 covers Themes 1 and 4 (35%), Paper 2 covers Themes 2 and 3 (35%) and Paper 3 covers all four Themes and is based on a pre-release context set by the Exam Board (30%).

Career Applications

The career applications are very wide and varied and allow students to keep options open as Economics can be combined with all of the other A level subjects. Business Economics is suitable for obtaining a background in economics and business which may help those seeking future managerial positions of in any organisation. A significant proportion of our students go on to study course in Business Management, Economics or Accountancy at university. There is also a growing proportion of students that are actively seeking access to career routes through higher Apprenticeship opportunities.

Entry Requirements

No prior study of Economics or Business Studies is necessary. A grade 6 in Mathematics and English is required.

BUSINESS

Description of Course

A-level Business is suitable for students who are keen to learn about how businesses operate and compete with each other in rapidly changing markets and economic conditions. Students will discover the skills and attributes that make a successful entrepreneur and develop an understanding of how effective marketing can influence the choices made by consumers. In addition, leadership and motivation, financial and resource management, recruitment and training are considered.

The course explores how business leaders make informed choices and develop strategies to meet the tastes and preferences of their markets in the UK and overseas. Students are introduced to the concept of marketing whilst also having to consider how firms raise finance and manage their resources effectively. They also need to consider the impact of competition with markets alongside an appreciation of economic developments.

In Theme 1 and Theme 2 students will be introduced to marketing, the role of leadership, raising finance and resource management. In Theme 3 and Theme 4 explores the importance of strategic planning, decision making and managing change alongside consideration of development in global markets.

There is also a direct correlation between the subject areas covered in class and events occurring in the real-world on a daily basis which brings a degree of realism to the classroom.

Methods of Study

Learning opportunities include discussions and debates for example: issues in rapidly changing markets, the influence of e-commerce, business ethics, mergers and takeovers and the impact of global events on consumers. Students will explore and present alternative courses of action through group work and learning about the world of business through research and investigation.

All students are actively encouraged to embrace independent study and demonstrate a strong willingness to accept stretch and challenge in the way they approach their studies.

Assessments

All of the A Level exams take place at the end of year 2. There are three exam papers, each lasting 2 hours. Paper 1 covers Themes 1 and 4 (35%), Paper 2 covers Themes 2 and 3 (35%) and Paper 3 covers all four Themes and is based on a pre-release context set by the Exam Board (30%).

Career Applications

The career applications are very wide and varied and allow students to keep options open as Business can be combined with all of the other A level subjects. Business A-Level is suitable for those wanting to develop a background in business to gain a future management/leadership position in any organization. The elements on finance and accounts will also provide a useful foundation for those seeking a career in accountancy, banking or financial management.

Entry Requirements

Prior study of Business Studies is not necessary. A grade 5 in Mathematics and English is required, as strong numeracy and literacy skills are important due to the significant amount of data analysis and extended writing required throughout the course and in examinations.

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Description of course

Computer Science develops your ability to solve problems and to think logically. We follow the OCR specification (Course code: H046 & H446). The course has two elements in year 12: The theory of Computing; how computers work and how we communicate using computers. The second element is concerned with problem solving and algorithm design. Techniques to solve problems will be taught together with developing your programming skills. During year 13 the course will look further into computing theory. In Year 13 you have the chance to work on a project of your choice. Previous examples include designing computer games, content management systems or booking systems.

Methods of Study

Lessons are classroom based. Time is equally split between theory and practical lessons.

Assessments

In Year 13 there are two examinations (40% each) and the programming project (20%) to complete.

Career Applications

Future career possibilities would include any IT related job, such as a developer, database administrator, games designer, web designer or system administrator.

Entry Requirements

A grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics or a grade 6 in GCSE Computer Science.

DESIGN TECHNOLOGY

Description of course

We are offering both Product Design and Design Engineering at A Level from the OCR suite of qualifications. The first option is aimed towards those students with a background in Resistant Materials whilst the second is aimed towards those with an Electronics or Systems background (although students from any background are able to study any option). The knowledge and skills acquired through the study of any Design Technology A-Level form a sound base, not only for taking the subject further, but also for employment in the scientific, technological and creative professions. It also facilitates practical application of maths and science, stimulates creativity and innovation and reflects up-to-date practice in many areas of modern life such as sustainability and emerging technologies.

Methods of Study

All of our courses have a 50:50 weighting of practical and examination and, as such, the majority of the year is spent doing practical activities with exam preparation focussed towards the end of the year. Students' ability and confidence in the subject are developed by having an emphasis on learning through making, with practical experiments and design tasks.

Assessments

There are two distinct A2 exams at the end of year 13. The final assessment is 50% Coursework and 50% examination.

Career Applications

Any engineering or science discipline, architecture, communications, product design, automobile design, manufacturing, marketing, 3d design, animation, robotics, mechatronics.

Entry Requirements

A grade B in a relevant Design Technology subject or a grade 6 in Mathematics.









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