# FEATHERSTONE HIGH SIXTH FORM



## PROSPECTUS 2027/28

FHS

ffh6

# YOUR FUTURE

## MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD



The Sixth Form at Featherstone High School is large, well established and highly successful, offering a wide range of subjects and courses.

We see Sixth Form as a launch pad for our students' futures. Our vision is to help every student achieve their best possible grades, prepare for the next stage of their journey and become confident, responsible citizens in 21st-century Britain.

Our results are consistently excellent, with students progressing each year to some of the country's most prestigious universities. Through outstanding teaching and pastoral support, we help students maximise their potential and secure places at leading universities or pursue excellent career opportunities.

Our state-of-the-art Sixth Form building includes a dedicated library, café and modern classrooms. Experienced specialist teachers provide a supportive environment where students are encouraged to achieve their ambitions.

I invite you to visit Featherstone High Sixth Form and discover the opportunities available. Places are highly sought after, so I encourage you to apply early. We look forward to welcoming you.

**Mr Walters, Headteacher**

# 2026 RESULTS

## A LEVELS

**36%** A*-A grades

**65%** A*-B grades

## BTEC LEVEL 3

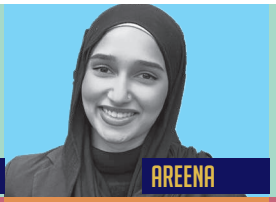
**79%** Distinction* & Distinction

**100%** Distinction* to Merit

# CLASS OF 2026: DESTINATIONS SNAPSHOT




**MEDICINE**
UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE




**BUSINESS ANALYST**
LONDON STOCK EXCHANGE




**CIVIL ENGINEERING**
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON



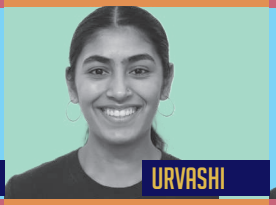

**ARCHITECTURE**
UNIVERSITY OF WESTMINSTER



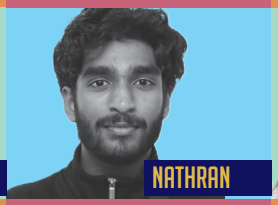

**MEDICINE**
KING'S COLLEGE LONDON



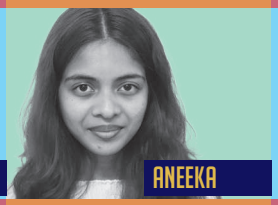

**MEDICINE**
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON




**VETERINARY MEDICINE**
UNIVERSITY OF SURREY



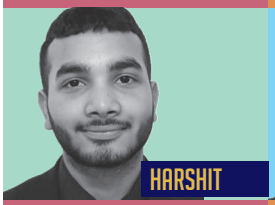

**MEDICINE**
QUEEN MARY UNIVERSITY



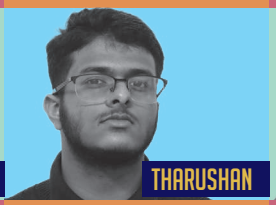

**CHILDREN'S NURSING**
KINGSTON UNIVERSITY




**MEDICINE**
QUEEN MARY UNIVERSITY




**MEDICINE**
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON




**ACTUARIAL SCIENCE**
QUEEN MARY UNIVERSITY



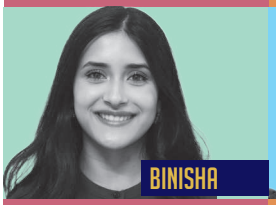

**LAW**
ROYAL HOLLOWAY




**PHYSICS**
KING'S COLLEGE LONDON




**MEDICINE**
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON




**SOCIAL WORK**
KINGSTON UNIVERSITY



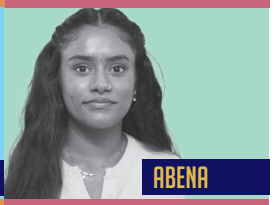

**ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING**
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON




**ACCOUNTING**
UNIVERSITY OF SUSSEX




**POLITICS**
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON



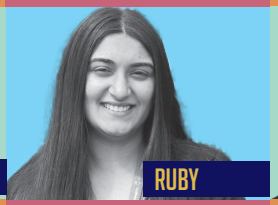

**ECONOMICS**
CITY ST GEORGES UNIVERSITY




**CHEMICAL ENGINEERING**
LOUGHBOROUGH UNIVERSITY



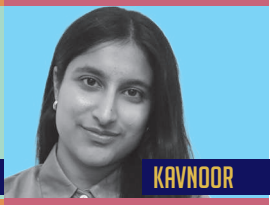

**ECONOMICS & FINANCE**
QUEEN MARY UNIVERSITY




**SOLICITOR**
BROADFIELD LAW FIRM




**ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING**
QUEEN MARY UNIVERSITY




**ACCOUNTING**
BRUNEL UNIVERSITY

# MORE THAN JUST LESSONS

## A VIBRANT COMMUNITY

### FANTASTIC LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

Featherstone Sixth Form students benefit from a purpose-built building offering a mature, professional learning environment where students wear business attire.

Facilities include a dedicated Sixth Form library for quiet study, a social space and café. Every student also receives a Netbook to support their learning.

### HIGH QUALITY TEACHING

High-quality teaching in our sixth form ensures that all students are supported and challenged to achieve their full potential. Lessons are engaging, well-structured and responsive to students' individual needs, promoting independent learning, critical thinking and a genuine enthusiasm for their subjects. Teachers have high expectations, provide regular feedback and foster positive relationships that enable students to develop confidence, resilience and the skills needed for success in their examinations, further education and future careers.

### EFFECTIVE CAREERS ADVICE

At FHS Sixth Form, students receive personalised support to plan their next steps. Every student is entitled to at least one meeting with a qualified careers adviser to explore university, apprenticeship and employment opportunities.

Throughout Years 12 and 13, students benefit from insight days, work experience and mentoring with employers including SEGRO, GSK and HS2.

University applicants receive comprehensive UCAS support, including the FHS Scholars Programme for those aspiring to Russell Group universities.



## ENRICHMENT

At Featherstone Sixth Form, our enrichment programme helps students build skills, explore interests and prepare for the future through leadership, volunteering, academic support and career opportunities.

**University preparation & Oxbridge/Russell Group mentoring**

**Academic tutoring & mentoring**

**Guest lectures & professional workshops**

**Student leadership & Sixth Form Council**

**Peer mentoring & buddy schemes**

**Volunteering & community outreach**

**Work experience & internships**

**Science, Arts, Humanities & Health and Social Care Weeks**

**University visits & taster days**

**Apprenticeship & career insights**

**CV & interview skills workshops**

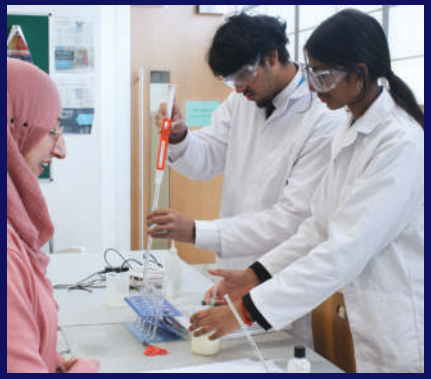
# RECORD NUMBERS INTO MEDCINE

## FHS SCHOLARS CAN HELP YOU

### FHS SCHOLARS PROGRAMME

The FHS Scholars Programme is designed for high-achieving students with predominantly GCSE grades 7–9 who aspire to study at leading universities, including Oxford, Cambridge and Russell Group institutions, or pursue competitive courses such as Medicine, Dentistry and Law.

The programme challenges students to develop skills beyond the classroom, including independent research, critical and creative thinking, presentation and interview techniques, helping them stand out in competitive university applications.



### APPLYING TO TOP UNIVERSITIES

We offer comprehensive support for students aspiring to study at Oxford, Cambridge and other leading universities.

Students are encouraged to attend university taster days and residential courses, with guidance on personal statements and interview preparation.

Those applying to Russell Group universities and competitive courses also receive advice and support with any required admissions tests, such as STEP or the UCAT.

### APPLYING FOR MEDICINE

Students aspiring to study Medicine can gain valuable hospital work experience during the summer term of Year 12 and attend workshops with healthcare professionals and former Featherstone students who have successfully pursued medical studies.

## 29% SECURED A RUSSELL GROUP UNIVERSITY PLACE

University of Cambridge
University of Birmingham
King's College London
Warwick — The University of Warwick
LSE — The London School of Economics and Political Science
University of Sheffield
UCL
University of York
Queen Mary University of London

# HERE TO HELP YOU MAKE THE RIGHT SUBJECT CHOICES

## A Level

5 x 9-4 GCSEs (APS 4.5 - 5)

GCSE grade 6 required in the subject you wish to study (grade 7 required for Physics, unless studying A Level Maths)

Grade 4 in English Language and Maths required. Grade 5 in English Language required for all essay based subjects.

**Please look at specific subject requirements for all subjects**

## BTEC (BTEC/AAQ/V Level)

5 x 9-3 GCSEs (APS 3.5)

Grade 3 in English Language **AND** Maths required (grade 3 minimum)

National Diploma = 2 A Levels
Certificate/AAQ = 1 A Level

Science at grade 3-3 (Trilogy) required for certain subjects

**Students will select one BTEC Diploma alongside one BTEC Certicate, AAQ or V Level qualification**

## A Level & BTEC

5 x 9-4 GCSEs (APS 4.5 - 5)

You need a grade 6 at GCSE for the A Level you wish to follow

Grade 4 in English Language and Maths required. Grade 5 in English Language required for all essay based A Level subjects.

**Students will select one A Level alongside a BTEC Diploma**

## RETAKES

Students may re-take English Language **AND** Maths.

**For those students that have not secured a grade 4 in either Maths or English Language, you will be required to retake the GCSE**

# CHOOSE FEATHERSTONE HIGH

## JOIN OUR SUCCESSFUL COMMUNITY

### STAGE 1

Choose Featherstone Sixth Form and refer to the admissions criteria.

### STAGE 2

Please read through this prospectus carefully so that you can make an informed decision. If you are unsure about anything, get some advice. In the first instance, speak to your form tutor, a member of the Sixth Form team or ring the school.

### STAGE 3

Take a look at the Course Pathways. It will help you to make your choices at the right level.

### STAGE 4

All internal students will apply through Applicaa. External students will apply through the website as an expression of interest.

Offer letters will be sent out after the receipt of a satisfactory reference.

### STAGE 5

Final enrolment will happen during August 2027. Enrolment takes place on GCSE results day for internal students. All external students will enrol the day after GCSE results day. If you are offered a place, attendance at the induction day is mandatory. A place on a course is only guaranteed if you enrol and meet the subject criteria.

### PROGRESSION INTO YEAR 12

The school will look at all students on an individual basis and whether they are suitable for the courses chosen. External students will be requested to show their birth certificate, current passport, proof of address and all relevant qualifications. **Students will have to complete entrance exams for Maths and Sciences and must be endorsed by the Head of Department (grade 6 in maths or 6-6 or 6-7 in Trilogy Science or a 6 in Triple Science.** Students that do not meet the required standard will be re-coursed. Students will have to complete course preparatory work over the summer for all subjects. It will be up to the discretion of the Sixth Form Team as to which courses students are able to follow.

Disclaimer: All information correct at time of going to print, please contact the school for the most up to date information.

# A Level Route

**Most students will follow 3 subjects, each must be from a different box from option 1- 4.**

Those students who have gained 9s & 8s in the main at GCSE, may have the opportunity to study 4 A Level subjects. Further Maths can only be studied as a fourth subject.

| A LEVEL OPTION 1 | A LEVEL OPTION 2 | A LEVEL OPTION 3 | A LEVEL OPTION 4 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Biology | Chemistry | Biology | Chemistry |
| Art | Economics | History | Economics |
| Business | Maths | Maths | Maths |
| Further Maths | Politics | Physics | English Literature |
| Sociology | Psychology | Sociology | Psychology |
| | French | Spanish | |
| | Computer Science | Geography | |

# BTEC Route

**All students will follow 2 different subjects, pick one from each option.**

For those students that have not secured a grade 4 in either Maths or English Language, you will be required to retake the GCSE

| OPTION 1 (EQUIVALENT TO 2 A LEVELS) | OPTION 2 (EQUIV. TO 1 A LEVEL) |
|---|---|
| **Applied Science**<br>(BTEC National Diploma) | **Applied Science**<br>(AAQ) |
| **Health and Social Care**<br>(BTEC National Diploma) | **IT** (V Level) |
| **Business**<br>(BTEC National Diploma) | **Health & Social Care**<br>(AAQ) |
| | **Business**<br>(BTEC Extended Certificate) |
| | **Sport**<br>(BTEC Extended Certificate) |

All courses are subject to the viability of minimum and maximum class numbers and students meeting the course criteria.

# Combined Route

Students will have the option of selecting 1 A Level course with a Level 3 Diploma (subject criteria applies).

## A LEVEL OPTION

- Chemistry
- Economics
- Maths
- English Literature
- Psychology
- Biology
- History
- Maths
- Physics
- Sociology
- Spanish
- Geography

## BTEC OPTION (EQUIVALENT TO 2 A LEVELS)

**Applied Science**
(BTEC National Diploma)

**Health and Social Care**
(BTEC National Diploma)

**Business**
(BTEC National Diploma)



# EXPLAINING A LEVLELS

## WHAT ARE A LEVELS?

A Levels are academic qualifications that develop independent study, research and writing skills, providing a pathway to university.

### Entry Requirements

Students need five GCSEs at grade 4 or above, including English Language and Maths, with at least grade 6 in their chosen A Level subjects. A minimum GCSE Average Point Score (APS) of 4.5 is required, rising to 5.0 for Maths, Sciences, Economics and Psychology. A grade 5 in English Language is required to study essay based subjects.

### How Many A Levels Will I Study?

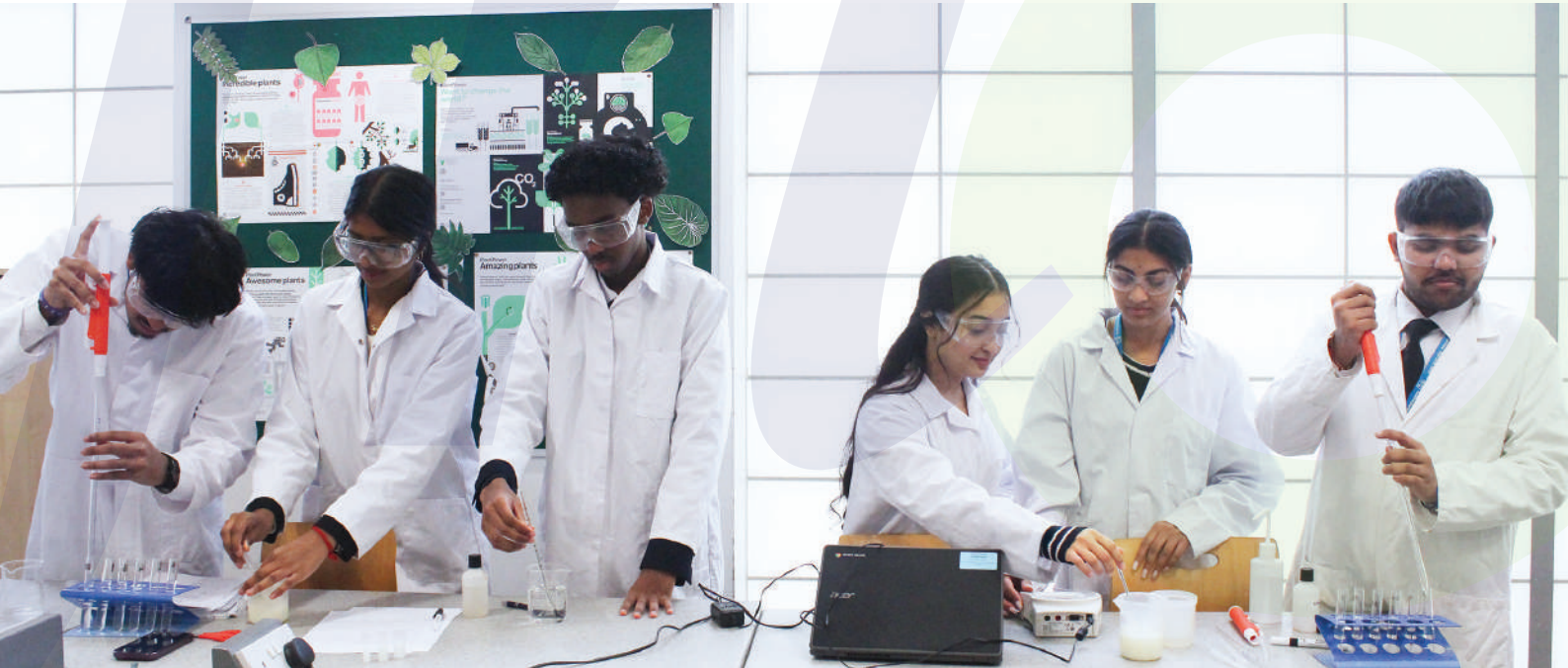
Most students study three A Levels. Those achieving predominantly grades 8–9 at GCSE may be advised to take four, completing one at AS Level at the end of Year 12.

All students complete three A Levels in Year 13. Our Sixth Form team will guide students towards the most suitable courses based on their GCSE results.

## A LEVEL CRITERIA

In subjects not taken at GCSE an associated GCSE will be taken into account. For example: 6 in History, Geography or English Language/Literature for A Level Politics. BTEC Level 2 grades would only be accepted as one grade within the 5 x 9-4 grades and for Sciences a 6-6 must be obtained in either the Trilogy Science or Triple Science subject.

In Maths and Science subjects, applicants must be endorsed by the Head of Department. Students will be expected to undertake preparatory work over the summer for all subjects. Students will complete entrances tests for Maths and Sciences (see page 5).





## ART, CRAFT & DESIGN

### ENTRANCE CRITERIA

5x 9-4 including English Lang and Maths at a grade 4. Grade 6 in GCSE Art required.

**EXAM BOARD:** PEARSON EDEXCEL

### CONTENT OF COURSE:

Students can explore a wide variety of media (drawing, painting, etching, printing, digital and textiles) in workshops designed to encourage pupils to experiment and refine their expertise. We aim to arrange visits with professional artists or visits to galleries to give students a broader understanding of the subject.

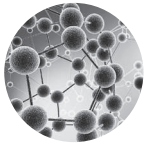
Component 1(Personal Investigation and Written study):
Students work on their personal project made up of a body of art work and sketchbooks. Pupils will write a thesis which is a contextual academic response to their chosen theme.

Component 2 (Exam question):
Students develop a body of work and sketchbooks that culminates in an exam.

### PROGRESSION ROUTES:

The Arts is the 3rd largest industry in the UK and this A Level will give you the opportunity to advance into a creative based career such as graphic design, textile design, illustration, web design, interior design, jewellery design, sculpture or fine art. Our students have gone on to study degrees in Art at top universities and have also studied a wide range of academic subjects at leading universities including Law.

**CONTACT:** Ms T Moghal



## BIOLOGY

### ENTRANCE CRITERIA

5x 9-4 including English Lang (grade 4). Grade 6-6 in **both** Trilogy Sciences or Biology Triple Science subject required. Students must also obtain a grade 5 in Maths and have an **APS above 5.0.**

**EXAM BOARD:** AQA

### CONTENT OF COURSE:

Year 1:

- Biological molecules
- Cells
- Organisms exchange substances with their environment
- Genetic information, variation & relationships between organisms

Year 2:

- Energy transfers in and between organisms
- Organisms respond to changes in their internal & external environments
- Genetics, populations, evolution & ecosystems
- The control of gene expression

### PROGRESSION ROUTES:

A qualification in Biology will allow progression to university study and entry to careers in a wide range of occupations, including medicine, forensic science, occupational therapy, physiotherapy, radiology, and nursing.

**CONTACT:** Ms N Pedrosa



## BUSINESS

### ENTRANCE CRITERIA

5x 9-4 including English Lang (grade 5) and Maths (grade 4). Grade 6 in GCSE Business Studies or associated subject e.g. English Lit/Lang, History or Geography if Business not studied at GCSE.

**EXAM BOARD:** AQA

### CONTENT OF COURSE:

Year 1:

- What is business?
- Managers, leadership and decision making
- Decision making to improve marketing performance
- Decision making to improve operational performance
- Decision making to improve financial performance
- Decision making to improve human resource performance

Year 2:

- Analysing the strategic position of a business
- Choosing strategic direction
- Strategic methods: how to pursue strategies
- Managing strategic change

### PROGRESSION ROUTES:

A qualification in Business Studies will allow progression to university to study for a Business Studies degree, or combined with another subject, for example a language. Students with a Business Studies qualification have skills that are attractive to potential employers.

**CONTACT:** Ms V Sharma



# CHEMISTRY

## ENTRANCE CRITERIA

5x 9-4 including English Lang (grade 4). Grade 6-6 in **both** Trilogy Sciences or Chemistry Triple Science subject required. Students must also obtain a grade 6 in Maths and have an **APS above 5.0.**

## EXAM BOARD: AQA

## CONTENT OF COURSE:

Year 1:

- Nomenclature & isomerism
- Atomic structure & periodicity
- Amount of substance
- Organic chemistry
- Energetics & equilibria
- Bonding & kinetics

Year 2:

- Transition metals & thermodynamics
- Rates & acids & bases
- Electrode potential & electrochemical cells
- Further organic chemistry
- Aromatic chemistry
- Polymers, amino acids, proteins & DNA
- H nmr & chromatography

## PROGRESSION ROUTES:

There are a huge range of degree courses available to study either Chemistry itself or combined with other subjects such as: Medicinal Chemistry, Forensic Science and Toxicology or Pharmacology. Certain courses require an A Level in Chemistry. These include courses such as Chemical Engineering, Medicine, Veterinary Medicine, Biological Sciences, Environmental Science, Pharmacy and Dentistry.

## CONTACT: Ms S Afzal



# COMPUTER SCIENCE

## ENTRANCE CRITERIA

5x 9-4 including English Lang (grade 4). Grade 6 in GCSE Computer Science or Maths (grade 6) required. Students must also have an **APS above 5.0.**

## EXAM BOARD: OCR

## CONTENT OF COURSE:

Year 1:

- Processor structure and function; input, output and storage
- Databases
- System software, design and development
- Computing related legislation
- Computational thinking
- Algorithms
- IDE features
- Programming techniques
- Data types and structures
- Programming paradigms
- Web technologies

Year 2:

- Programming project (coursework)
- Moral and ethical issues
- Networks
- Compression and encryption
- Boolean algebra using Karnaugh Maps
- Data representation
- Stages of compilation

Assessed by two exams (40% each) and a programming project (20%)

## PROGRESSION ROUTES:

It is excellent preparation for computing at degree level, or any career in computing.

## CONTACT: Mr T Haque



# ECONOMICS

## ENTRANCE CRITERIA

5x 9-4 grades. English Lang (grade 5) and Maths (grade 6) minimum. Grade 6 in associated subject required e.g English Lang/Lit, History or Geography and an **APS above 5.0.**

## EXAM BOARD: AQA

## CONTENT OF COURSE:

Year 1:

- The operation of markets and market failure
- The national economy in a global context

Year 2:

- Individuals, firms, markets and market failure
- The national and international economy

## PROGRESSION ROUTES:

A qualification in Economics will allow progression to university study for an Economics degree or combine with another subject for example Finance, Accounting, Management, Law and Sociology.

Students with an Economics qualification have skills that are attractive to employers in private businesses, insurance, banking, national and local government, hospital management and economic lawyers.

## CONTACT: Mr D Walters



# ENGLISH LITERATURE

**ENTRANCE CRITERIA**

5x 9-4 including Maths (grade 4). Grade 6 in **both** GCSE English Literature **and** Language required.

## EXAM BOARD: PEARSON EDEXCEL

## CONTENT OF COURSE:

Year 1:

- Post-2000 Specified Poetry - 'Poetry of the Decade' Anthology
- Prose comparison - 'A Thousand Splendid Suns' and 'Tess of the D'Urbervilles'
- Drama - 'A Streetcar Named Desire'
- Drama - 'Othello'
- Independent Coursework - comparison of two chosen texts

Year 2:

- Study of Shakespeare Critical Anthology
- Poetry - Christina Rossetti
- Completion of Independent Coursework
- Revision

- **Component 1:** Drama (30% exam)
- **Component 2:** Prose (20% exam)
- **Component 3:** Poetry (30% exam)
- **Component 4:** Coursework (20%)

## PROGRESSION ROUTES:

English A Level is unique as it will support entry to the widest range of university courses ranging from Law through to History, Sociology or Psychology, when compared to any other single A Level.

## CONTACT: Ms C Carey



# GEOGRAPHY

**ENTRANCE CRITERIA**

5x 9-4 including English Lang (grade 5) and Maths (grade 4). Grade 6 in GCSE Geography required or in an associated subject e.g. English Lit/ Lang or History if Geography not studied at GCSE.

## EXAM BOARD: OCR

## CONTENT OF COURSE:

Year 1:

- Glaciation
- Changing Spaces: Making Places
- Earth's Life Support Systems
- Power & Borders
- Trade in a Contemporary World
- Non-Examined Assessment
- Fieldwork

Year 2:

- Non-Examined Assessment
- Future of Food
- Climate Change

## PROGRESSION ROUTES:

Geography A Level provides an excellent foundation for further study at university, either through a Geography degree or as a supporting subject for other degrees. Qualifications in Geography are highly sought after in a wide range of occupations, including journalism, law, and business. It is the skills learnt studying Geography that make geographers eminently employable in the wider world. FHS Geography A Level students have gone on to study subjects such as Economics, Business and Geography at university.

## CONTACT: Mr A Hughes



# HISTORY

**ENTRANCE CRITERIA**

5x 9-4 including English Lang (grade 5) and Maths (grade 4). Grade 6 in GCSE History required or in an associated subject e.g. English Lit/Lang or Geography if History not studied at GCSE.

## EXAM BOARD: PEARSON EDEXCEL

## CONTENT OF COURSE:

Year 1:

- Germany and West Germany 1918 - 89 (30% exam)
- Rebellion and Disorder under the Tudors 1485 - 1603 (30% exam)

Year 2:

- The rise and fall of fascism in Italy 1911 - 46 (20% exam)
- Choice of coursework questions which includes, the causes of the Russian Revolution 1917 (20% coursework)

A Level students will study four units, which will include several country's history, covering a 200 year period.

## PROGRESSION ROUTES:

A good grade at A Level History is recognised by all universities as a facilitating subject for entry into a wide range of undergraduate disciplines and courses. The skills of analysis are invaluable in many jobs, and the ability to analyse and then prioritise information is vital to decision making. Studying A Level History also provides graduates the opportunity to enter into a wider range of occupations, including within law, journalism or education.

## CONTACT: Mr A McGhee



# LANGUAGES

### ENTRANCE CRITERIA

5x 9-4 including English Lang and Maths (grade 4). Grade 6 in chosen language studied at GCSE required.

## SPANISH & FRENCH

**EXAM BOARD:** AQA

### CONTENT OF COURSE:

Core:

- Social issues and trends
- Political and artistic culture
- Grammar

Options:

- Works
- Literary text and films

### PROGRESSION ROUTES:

Most universities will offer the opportunity to study a combined degree such as Business & Languages with the opportunity to study abroad. Languages will open the doors to various industries such as travel & tourism, customer relations, law, international relations, international business and some governmental agencies.

**CONTACT:** Ms E Sanz



# MATHEMATICS

### ENTRANCE CRITERIA

5x 9-4 including English Lang (grade 4). Grade 6 in GCSE Maths and an APS above 5.0 required.

**EXAM BOARD:** PEARSON EDEXCEL

### CONTENT OF COURSE:

Pure Maths Units:
Algebra and Functions, Coordinate geometry in the (x, y) plane, Further Algebra, Trigonometry, Vectors, Differentiation, Integration, Exponentials and Logarithms, Proof, Algebraic and Partial Fractions, Functions and Modelling, Sequences and Series, Parametric Equations and Numerical Methods.

Applied Maths Mechanical Units:
Modelling in Mechanics, Constant Acceleration, Forces and Motion Variable Acceleration, Moments, Forces and Friction, Projectiles, Applications of Forces, Further Kinematics

Applied Maths Statistical Units:
Data Location, Measures of Location and Spread, Representations of Data, Correlation, Probability, Mutually Exclusive and independent Events, Statistical Distributions, Hypothesis Testing, Regression, Correlation, Conditional Probability, The Normal Distribution.

### PROGRESSION ROUTES:

Maths provides a pathway to a variety of areas including economics, medicine, psychology, architecture, teaching, engineering, environmental studies, and accountancy.

**FURTHER MATHS:** Students will be required to have an 8 or 9 in GCSE Maths and be studying A Level Maths.

**CONTACT:** Mr M Semar



# PHYSICS

### ENTRANCE CRITERIA

5x 9-4 including English Lang (grade 4). Grade 6-6 in both Trilogy Sciences or Physics Triple Science subject required. Students must also obtain a grade 7 in Maths, or be studying A Level Maths, and have an APS above 5.0.

**EXAM BOARD:** AQA

### CONTENT OF COURSE:

Year 1:

- Measurement & errors
- Particles & radiation
- Waves
- Mechanics & Materials
- Electricity

Year 2:

- Further mechanics & Thermal Physics
- Capacitors
- Electric and Magnetic Fields
- Nuclear physics
- Turning points in Physics

### PROGRESSION ROUTES:

As well as pure and applied Physics itself, Physics is an essential qualification to work in different engineering disciplines. It provides additional understanding for Chemistry and offers great opportunities to better understand the applications of Maths. It is a qualification highly respected by employers and universities as one that is really able to showcase the intelligence, analytical skills and problem solving skills of those who take it. Physics has great application in financial analysis, law and video game design.

**CONTACT:**Mr T Matsvai



## POLITICS

### ENTRANCE CRITERIA

5x 9-4 including English Lang (grade 5) and Maths (grade 4). Grade 6 in associated subject required e.g. English Lit/Lang, History or Geography.

**EXAM BOARD:** PEARSON EDEXCEL

### CONTENT OF COURSE:

Year 1:

- UK Politics
- UK Government

Year 2:

- Core Political Ideas
- Government & Politics of the USA

A Level Politics will help develop your analytical and critical thinking whilst also developing your research and presenting skills. Politics will develop your extended writing skills and will provide an excellent foundation for any chosen subject at degree level. The subject makes an excellent combination with subjects such as History, Sociology, Economics and English.

### PROGRESSION ROUTES:

A qualification in Politics is widely recognised as a pathway to studying for a university degree. It also provides the opportunity to enter a wide range of occupations, including local and national government, law, journalism and the Civil Service.

**CONTACT:** Mr M Thorley



## PSYCHOLOGY

### ENTRANCE CRITERIA

5x 9-4 grades. English Lang and Maths (grade 5). Grade 6 in associated subject required e.g English Lit/Lang, History or Geography and an APS above 5.0.

**EXAM BOARD:** AQA

### CONTENT OF COURSE:

Year 1:

- Approaches
- Biopsychology
- Psychopathology
- Social Influence
- Research Methods
- Issues and Debates

Year 2:

- Research Methods
- Relationships
- Forensic Psychology
- Schizophrenia

### PROGRESSION ROUTES:

Psychology is a well regarded subject which is accepted by universities for students studying both Science (including Medicine) and Arts courses. There are a range of psychology specific careers such as: clinical and educational counselling, forensic and sport psychology and applied psychology. Psychology also equips you with skills and knowledge applicable in a range of professional sectors such as careers in biomedicine, criminology, the media, business management, the Civil Service, finance, law and business.

**CONTACT:** Mr Osborn-Clarke



## SOCIOLOGY

### ENTRANCE CRITERIA

5x 9-4 including English Lang (grade 5) and Maths (grade 4). Grade 6 in associated subject required e.g. English Lit/Lang, History or Geography.

**EXAM BOARD:** AQA

### CONTENT OF COURSE:

Year 1:

- Families and Households
- Education
- Research Methods

Year 2:

- Meida in Society
- Crime and Deviance
- Theory

### PROGRESSION ROUTES:

Sociology is a subject that is widely recognised and highly respected by universities, especially for entry onto courses such as English, History, Psychology, Law, Politics and Medicine (with the appropriate sciences). The subject is also respected by employers in a wide range of careers which involve dealing with the general public such as teaching, police, social work and youth work. Sociology is particularly relevant for those working in market research and social science research. Moreover, it can lead to careers in advertising, journalism, business and law.

**CONTACT:** Mr Osborn-Clarke

# EXPLAINING BTECS/AAQS/V LEVELS

## WHAT ARE THEY?

BTECs, Alternative Academic Qualifications (AAQs) and V Levels combine practical, career-focused learning with essential theoretical knowledge, helping students develop skills for university, further study or employment.

These qualifications reflect industry needs and provide a pathway into both academic and vocational careers.

We offer BTEC Extended Certificates, AAQs and V Levels (equivalent in size to one A Level) and BTEC Diplomas (equivalent in size to two A Levels).

V Levels are new vocational qualifications being introduced to provide practical, employment-focused pathways alongside A Levels.

## CRITERIA

In order to access Level 3 courses students will need to attain a minimum of 5 GCSEs at grade 3-9 (grade 3 in English Language **AND** Maths). This can include BTEC courses previously followed. Please check individual subjects for entrance criteria.

All courses require students to pass external examination/ assessment units. This will be a minimum pass mark of 40%. Failure to pass external exams will mean that students do not pass the course.





# APPLIED SCIENCE

**ENTRANCE CRITERIA**

5x 9-3 including a grade 3 in both English Lang & Maths plus a 3-3 in Trilogy Science required. Level 2 BTECs accepted at Merit level.

## Level 3 Diploma

This course is ideal if you already enjoy science and are interested in developing a career in a science related profession. The course will cover the use of science and scientific skills, within a variety of vocational settings, as well as the study and research of a wide range of units. On completion of the course students will have a grounded knowledge of science in the three disciplines of Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

## Level 3 AAQ

This qualification has the following units:

- Biology – Structure and function of cells and tissues, biological molecules, enzymes and their role in organisms
- Chemistry – Structure of the Periodic Table and its implications on physical and chemical properties of substances, through analysis of different bonding methods
- Physics – Waves and their applications; force principles and their application in transportation and construction of electrical circuits
- Practical – Practical applications across the sciences, including chromatography, colorimetry, and electrical circuits.

Students have a choice from two optional units covering the following topics:

- Scientific Investigation Skills – Investigative research, including planning, data collection, analysis, and evaluation.
- Contemporary Issues in Science – Contemporary scientific issues including the reliability of sources of scientific information and their associated validity.

## CAREER PATHWAYS:

Forensic science, occupational therapy, physiotherapy, radiology, nursing, science technician, quality control technician/analyst or research assistant and laboratory research assistant.

**CONTACT:** Ms T Jeyachandran



# BUSINESS

**ENTRANCE CRITERIA**

5x 9-3 including a grade 3 in both English Lang & Maths. Level 2 BTECs accepted at Merit level.

## Level 3 Diploma

This course consists of six mandatory units and two optional ones: Exploring Business; Developing a Marketing Campaign (external exam); Personal and Business Finance (external exam); Managing an Event; International Business; Principles of Management plus two optional units.

## Level 3 Extended Certificate

This course will include exploring the business purposes, introduction to marketing, business communication and introduction to accounting. The course covers the key knowledge and practical skills required in a range of business industries.

## CAREER PATHWAYS:

Advertising executive, human resources manager, public relations executive, recruitment consultant, retail manager, sales executive, building society manager, company secretary and distribution/logistics manager.

**CONTACT:** Ms V Sharma



# HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

### LEVEL 3 ENTRANCE CRITERIA

5x 9-3 including a grade 3 in both English Lang & Maths **plus** a 3-3 in Trilogy Science required. Level 2 BTECs accepted at Merit level.

## Level 3 Diploma

This course covers topics such as equality, diversity and rights in health and social care. You will develop effective communication skills and find out the importance of personal and professional development. As part of your course you will attend vocational practice placements to practise the theory you have learnt in class. The core units also involve you learning about human anatomy and physiology, public health and lifespan development. Optional units include learning about sociological and psychological perspectives in health and social care.

## Level 3 AAQ

These are the topics covered in the AAQ qualification:

- Unit 1: Human Lifespan and Development – exam
- Unit 2: Human Biology and Health – exam
- Unit 3: Health and Social Care Practice – coursework
- Unit 4: Promoting Health Education – coursework

The course consists of two externally examined units and two coursework units.

## CAREER PATHWAYS:

If you are enthusiastic about caring and helping people and want to develop the skills and knowledge, you will find this course challenging and interesting. The course is vocational and taught by vocationally trained teachers. You will learn by completing assignments based on realistic workplace situations whilst having the opportunity to attend work placements to put your theoretical knowledge into practice. You will have three units that will be examined externally. This course will prepare you for entry into employment or for higher level study such as an HND or Degree courses in Social Work, Nursing, Education, Occupational Therapy, Policing, Law, and many more.

## CONTACT:

Mr J Andrews & Mr Gaddu





# SPORT

## LEVEL 3 ENTRANCE CRITERIA

5x 9-3 including a grade 3 in both English Lang & Maths **plus** a 3-3 in Trilogy Science required. Level 2 BTECs accepted at Merit level.

## Level 3 Extended Certificate

The Diploma consists of nine units (three external units and six mandatory units which include two optional units) covering a wide range of topics including Sports Leadership and Sport Psychology.

The Extended Certificate consists of four units of which three are mandatory and two are external based on Functional Anatomy and Physiology. Mandatory content (83%). External assessment (67%).

A broad base of study for the sport sector, this qualification is designed to support progression to higher education when taken as part of a programme of study that includes other appropriate BTEC Nationals or A Levels.

## CAREER PATHWAYS:

Employment opportunities include health & fitness instructor, coaching assistant, PE teacher, coach, gym instructor and sports scientist.

**CONTACT:** Ms A McKeever



# IT

## LEVEL 3 ENTRANCE CRITERIA

5x 9-3 including a grade 3 in both English Lang & Maths. Level 2 BTECs accepted at Merit level.

## Level 3 V Level in Digital Systems and Data

Students will learn how digital systems work and how organisations use data to make decisions, gaining valuable problem-solving, analytical and digital skills that are highly sought after by employers and universities alike. The V Level provides a strong foundation for progression into apprenticeships, further study in computing, IT or data science, or a range of digital careers.

The V Level is for students who are interested in technology and data alongside other fields of study, with a view to progressing to a wide range of higher education courses, not necessarily in computing or IT. It can be taken as part of a programme of study that includes A Levels.

Content Studied:

1. Core knowledge: digital systems, data and cyber security
2. Applied work: data analysis, cyber security, and either system configuration or solution design

## CAREER PATHWAYS:

Cyber security technician, data technician, digital support technician, IT solutions technician, software development technician, or degree and higher apprenticeships in computing, IT and data science.

**CONTACT:** Mr T Haque



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## BE PART OF AN EXCITING FUTURE


Montague Waye Southall,
UB2 5HF

020 8571 8581

info@featherstonehigh.ealing.sch.uk