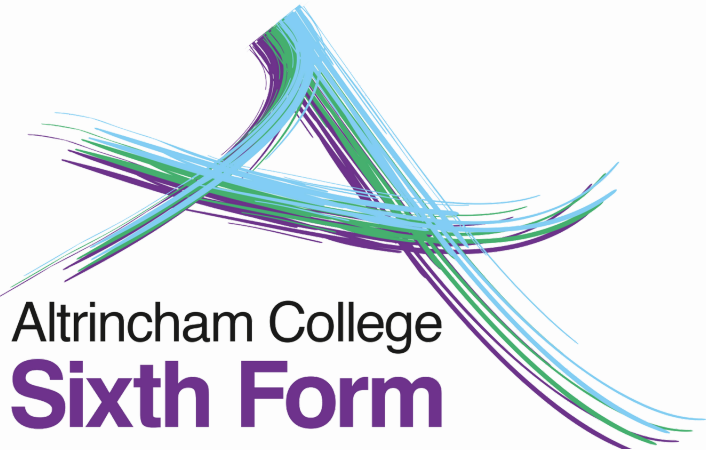




Altrincham College
Sixth Form

COURSE GUIDE

2026 ENTRY



Contents

A Level Courses

Art and Design.....	3
Biology.....	4
Business.....	5
Chemistry.....	6
English Language	7
English Literature.....	8
Geography.....	9
History.....	10
Law.....	11
Maths.....	12
Psychology.....	13
Sociology.....	14
Spanish.....	15

BTEC/Vocational Courses

Media Studies.....	16
OCR Sport and Physical Activity.....	17
AAQ in Computing Science: Application Development.....	18
Music Performance	19

We strive to offer a broad and inclusive curriculum to all students; however, course availability is subject to enrolment numbers and will be confirmed once all applications have been received. To ensure flexibility, we encourage students to select a fourth backup subject in case one of their initial choices is unavailable.

A LEVEL

Art and Design

Level: 3
Subject Title: Art and Design
Awarding Body: WJEC/EDUQAS
Course Code: 601/4456/7

Contact: Mrs Wagstaff
Email: gst@altrinchamcollege.com

In A Level Art and Design, you will explore all of the disciplines including Art, Textiles, 3D, Photography and Graphic Design. You will then undertake a personal investigation to develop your chosen discipline.

Learning Methods and Assessment

Component 1- 60% of qualification:

Personal Investigation. Internally assessed and externally moderated.

Component 2- 40% of qualification:

Externally Set Assignment. Internally assessed and externally moderated.



The same four assessment objectives below apply across both components. Each assessment objective is equally weighted:

AO1 Develop ideas through sustained and focused investigations informed by contextual and other sources, demonstrating analytical and critical understanding.

AO2 Explore and select appropriate resources, media, materials, techniques and processes, reviewing and refining ideas as work develops.

AO3 Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions, reflecting critically on work and progress.

AO4 Present a personal and meaningful response that realises intentions and, where appropriate, makes connections between visual and other elements.

Course Content

The course provides learners with opportunities to develop a broad foundation of critical, practical and theoretical skills that offers learned a holistic understanding of a range of practices and contexts in the visual arts and craft and design fields, culminating in greater specialism and achievement.

It gives learners the opportunity to follow a programme of study which extends experience and personal response as well as developing imagination and critical and reflective thinking. the ability to innovate, adapt and work independently, which underlies all aspects of the specification, is valued by higher education and employers alike.



Entry Requirements

5 GCSE's at grades 9-5 including English Language and Maths.

A strong portfolio of art work.

A Grade 5 or above in an art based GCSE- Art, Textiles, Photography etc.

Careers

Students can use this qualification to progress to University to study a Higher Education Foundation Degree, Higher National Diploma or other professional development programmes. Some may enter a specialist area of employment. Depending on other qualifications the learners have taken, they can progress to a degree programme from a range of courses in the art and design sector. For example, students who take Law, English or Computer Science alongside Art and Design have gained places at University to study Graphics, Fine Art, Interior Design and Fashion as well as other related degrees. Many student take up careers either linked to creative industries or careers in different areas of employment where their knowledge and expertise in the Arts has helped them a great deal.

A LEVEL

Biology

Level: 3
Subject Title: Biology
Awarding Body: Edexcel
Course Code: 601/5299/0

Contact: Mrs Lunt
Email: elt@altrinchamcollege.com

Learning Methods and Assessment

All units are assessed through examinations. Exams will take place in the June of Year 13. There will be a mix of structured and short-answer questions which draw on the student's experience of planning and completing core practical activities as well as on their in-depth knowledge of biological principles. Students will need to interpret and explain experimental results and be aware of ethical issues in Biology.



Topics 1-6 will be examined in Paper 1, Topics 1-4, 7 and 8 will be examined in Paper 2, and Paper 3 will focus on General and Practical Applications in Biology. Each paper will account for 33.33% of the total qualification.

Course Content

Students will study **eight core topics**:

- 1 - Lifestyle, Health and Risk
- 2 - Genes and Health
- 3 - Voice of the Genome
- 4 - Biodiversity and Natural Resources
- 5 - On the Wild Side
- 6 - Immunity, Infection and Forensics
- 7 - Run for your Life
- 8 - Grey Matter

Practical, Research And Investigative Skills:

Students complete 18 core practical assignments which will be assessed in the examinations, particularly in Paper 3. Students will need to work safely, produce valid results and learn to present and evaluate data appropriately. Year 13 practical activities will provide evidence for the Science Practical Endorsement which requires competence to be shown in a list of key biological techniques. The Science Practical Endorsement will be assessed as a Pass or Fail. While not contributing to the qualification grade, the result will appear on the student's exam certificate.

Entry Requirements

Minimum grade of 6 in Maths GCSE, 6 in Biology GCSE or 6 in Combined Science GCSE

Careers

This qualification is an excellent foundation for progression in biological sciences and related courses at university. It is a great basis for careers in health-related professions in laboratory and environmental science and in teaching.



A LEVEL *Business*

Level: 3
Subject Title: Business
Awarding Body: OCR
Course Code: 603/2339/5

Contact: Mr Rayworth
Email: arh@altrinchamcollege.com

Learning Methods and Assessment

Year 1- Key Components

- Business Opportunities and Functions- This unit explores different types of businesses, markets, and the role of entrepreneurs. It also covers functional areas like marketing, finance, operations, and human resources.

Year 1 and 2

- Business Analysis and Strategy- This section emphasizes strategic decision-making, focusing on how businesses analyse their performance and external factors. IT includes understanding financial ratios, market conditions, and competitive environments.

Year 2

- Business in a Changing World- This unit looks at how businesses adapt to external influences, such as technological advances, economic changes, globalization, and ethical considerations. It also addresses the social and environmental responsibilities of businesses.

Students will sit three, 2 hour 15 minute exams at the end of second year. The course is assessed 100% by examination.



Course Content

The course assessment is exam-based, with students required to demonstrate their ability to apply knowledge to case studies, analyse business scenarios, and make informed decisions. It's aimed at students looking to pursue further studies in business, economics, or management, or enter the workforce with a foundational understanding of business operations.

The Eduqas A Level in Business is a comprehensive course designed to give students a strong understanding of business concepts, theories and real world applications. It covers various key areas such as business structures, decision-making, management, marketing, operations, finance, and human resources. The course focuses on developing analytical and critical thinking skills, enabling students to evaluate different business environments and strategies.

Entry Requirements

5 GCSE's at grades 9-5 including two grade 6's in English or a humanities subject, and a grade 5 in Maths.

Careers

Studying A Level Business can open doors to a wide range of career opportunities, as it provides students with a strong foundation in essential skills such as problem-solving, analytical thinking and decision-making. Many business related roles require a solid understanding of economics, marketing, finance and management, all of which are covered by the A Level curriculum. For instance, A Level Business can pave the way for a career in accounting or finance, where understanding financial reports, budgets and investments is key. It can also lead to roles in marketing, helping students develop insights in to consumer behaviour, branding, and market strategies. Many students with this qualification also find careers in management or entrepreneurship, where leadership and strategic planning are essential.



A LEVEL Chemistry

Level: 3
Subject Title: Chemistry
Awarding Body: AQA
Course Code: 601/5731/8

Contact: Mrs Lunt
Email: elt@altrinchamcollege.com

Learning Methods and Assessment

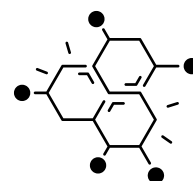
Students will take three examinations for the A Level at the end of year 13:

Paper 1: Physical chemistry, inorganic chemistry and relevant practical skills (105 marks) (2 hours)

Paper 2: Physical chemistry, organic chemistry and relevant practical skills (105 marks) (2 hours)

Paper 3: Any content, any practical skills (90 marks) (2 hours).

Papers 1 and 2 consist of short and long answer questions. Paper 3 will include practical techniques and data analysis (40 marks), questions testing knowledge across the specification (20 marks) and 30 multiple choice questions.



Course Content

Students will study aspects of Chemistry that are often in the media and affect their lives. You will develop knowledge and understanding to explain many different aspects of contemporary chemistry, including climate change, green chemistry, pharmaceuticals and chemistry research.

Students of A Level Chemistry will leave the course with the ability to recognise, recall and show understanding of specific chemical facts, terminology, principles and concepts and with well-developed practical ability. You will use information with the view of interpreting phenomena and effects of chemical principles, as well as presenting arguments and ideas in a logical, clear manner.



Entry Requirements

Minimum grades of 6 in Maths GCSE.
Grade 6 in Chemistry GCSE.

Careers

Potential areas of study and employment include: medicine, pharmacy, veterinary science, chemistry, biochemistry, food science/nutrition, forensic science, biological/engineering careers, optical management, optometry, microbiology, natural sciences, pharmacology, software engineering and physiology.

A LEVEL

English Language

Level: 3
Subject Title: English Language
Awarding Body: AQA
Course Code: 601/46400

Contact: Mrs Gatward
Email: sgd@altrinchamcollege.com

Learning Methods and Assessment

Papers 1 and 2 will be externally assessed through examinations. Each exam will constitute 40% of the total marks for the A Level, making a total of 80%.

Non-exam assessment: this coursework piece will be internally assessed and externally moderated and will constitute 20% of the total marks for the A Level

In order to prepare for the units, students will analyse and write a broad range of texts covering various purposes and intended audiences.



Course Content

This is a two year course which is assessed at the end through two examinations and two pieces of coursework.

Paper 1- Language, The Individual and Society

Paper 2- Language Diversity and Change, non-exam assessment: Language in Action

Language, The Individual and Society: Textual variations and representations; Children's language development (0-11 years); Methods of language analysis are integrated into the activities. Students will study two texts and analyse how language variations are used, and write an essay on language development.

Language, Diversity and Change: Language diversity and change; language discourses; writing skills; Methods of language analysis are integrated into the activities. Students will write three essays on the examination paper: one on either language change or language diversity; one responding to texts provided and one piece of directed writing showing language change in action.

Language in Action: Language investigation; Original Writing. Students are required to produce a language investigation (2,000 words excluding data) and a piece of original writing and commentary (1500 words total).



Entry Requirements

Give GCSE's at grades 9-5 including English Literature and Maths.
Grade 6 or above in English Literature.

Careers

An English Language A Level is highly regarded by universities, providing a solid grounding for continued study at degree level. Degree programmes in English Language or Literature, Creative Writing, History, Politics, Journalism, and Media and Communications are all possible routes into higher education.

A LEVEL

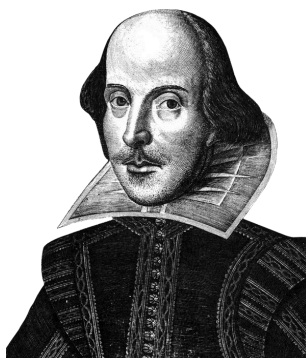
English Literature

Level: 3
Subject Title: English Literature
Awarding Body: AQA
Course Code: 601/5328/3

Contact: Mrs Gatward
Email: sgd@altrinchamcollege.com

Learning Methods and Assessment

- **Unit 1-** a two hours written exam, closed book (worth 40% of A Level)
- **Unit 2-** a three hour written exam, comprised of two open book sections and one unseen passage (worth 40% of A Level)
- **Non-Examined Assessment-** study of one prose and one poetry text, informed by a choice of critical readings from six possibilities, including those centred on Marxism, Feminism and post-colonialism. Two essays of 1200-1500 words each (worth 20% of A Level)
- All examinations will be taken at the end of Year 13



Course Content

This A Level consists of two units, studying six texts in total, plus two extended essays at coursework (one prose and one poetry).

Unit 1- Literary Genres (Aspects of Tragedy): A study of all three texts from a list of eight, including 2 drama texts. Looking at texts such as 'Othello', 'The Great Gatsby' and 'Death of a Salesman'. Students will explore a range of elements which contribute to the popularity and ever-changing nature of what constitutes a tragedy.

Unit 2- Texts and Genres (Elements of Crime Writing): A study of 3 texts from a list of 8. By tracing the growth of crime fiction from the mid 19th century to the present day, students will explore how writers structure their works in order to focus on the breaking of national, social, religious or moral laws. Possible texts for study include 'Brighton Rock', 'Atonement', and 'When Will There Be Good News'.

Non-examined Assessment- two extended essays, based on one prose and one poetry text linked to literary theories.

Entry Requirements

Five GCSE's at grades 9-5 including English Language and Maths.
Grade 6 in English Literature.

Careers

English Literature is a highly regarded qualification because it includes the essential skills of constructing and presenting an argument, reading widely, quickly and being able to synthesise information. These transferrable skills are vitally important in any form of employment and at university.



A LEVEL Geography

Level: 3
Subject Title: Geography
Awarding Body: AQA
Course Code: 601/8941/x

Contact: Mr Hughes
Email: shs@altrinchamcollege.com

Learning Methods and Assessment

The A Level is assessed through structured questions with data response, demanding both extended writing and more open-ended essays. Students will need to be able to critically analyse issues, evaluate outcomes and have the ability to interpret data, maps and graphs, and so a good standard of mathematical ability will help.



Fieldwork will develop students' understanding of the key concepts and processes and promote independent research skills. The fieldwork element of the course will be assessed by the learner's own independent investigation. This course specification builds on the knowledge, understanding and skills established at GCSE and particularly aims to develop a deeper understanding of, and ability to apply, the concepts of place, space, scale and environment.

Course Content

Component 1: Physical Geography

Section A - Water and carbon cycles

Section B - Glacial systems and landscapes

Section C - Hazards

Component 2: Human Geography

Section A - Global Systems and Global Governance

Section B - Changing places

Section C - Population and the environment

How it's assessed: Two written exams each 2 hours 30 minutes long (120 marks, 40% of A Level).

Question types: short answer, levels of response, extended prose

Component 3: Geography Fieldwork Investigation

Students complete an individual investigation which must include data collected in the field. The individual investigation must be based on a question or issue defined and developed by the student relating to any part of the specification content. *how it's assessed:* 3000-4000 words (60 marks, 20% of A Level) Marked by teachers, moderated by AQA.

Please note that Fieldwork and personal research are an essential part of the A Level course.

Entry Requirements

5 GCSE's at grades 9-5 including English Language and Maths
Grade 6 or above in GCSE Geography

Careers

The broad nature of the subject makes it a useful foundation for many degrees. Combined with this, the transferable skills of a high level of literacy, numeracy, reporting skills, an ability to collect data, well-developed skills in ICT and a problem-solving mentality make Geographers highly employable graduates. Many go on to jobs in finance, marketing and management, with other careers including surveying, environmental management, consultancy and journalism.



A LEVEL History

Level: 3
Subject Title: History
Awarding Body: OCR
Course Code: 601/4701/5

Contact: Mr Gillan
Email: jgn@altrinchamcollege.com

Learning Methods and Assessment

Linear A Levels are externally assessed courses with examinations covering all units sat at the end of Year 13.

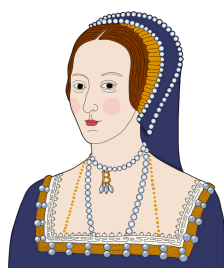
A Level student are examined on Unit 1, 2, 3 and 4:

Unit 1 is worth 25%

Unit 2 is worth 15%

Unit 3 is worth 40%

Unit 4 is worth 20%



Course Content



Year 12

Unit 1: *The mid-Tudor crisis (1547-1558) and The Reign of Elizabeth I (1558-1603)*: students study the contrasting reigns of Edward and Mary to consider the stability of the English monarchy at this time. This is followed by an in-depth study of the reign of Elizabeth I which focuses on the issues of religion, the threat posed by Catholic Spain, a woman in power and why she resisted the pressure to marry

Unit 2: *Democracy and Dictatorships in Germany, 1919-1963*: a study of the establishment, development and policies of both the Weimar Republic (1919-33) and the Nazi dictatorship (1933-45). You will also study the impact of Germany's defeat in the Second World War and the creation of a divided Germany.

Year 13

Unit 3: *Russia and its Rulers 1865-1964*: students study a thematic module that covers a broad range of Russian history. They will study Russia under both imperial government and communist rule. Themes that will be covered include; war, terror and repression, the nature of government, opposition, living conditions and the economy. We will study a wide range of key events and how they affected Russia, including the World Wars and Cold War, as well as the revolutions of 1917 and Stalinist terror. Throughout this unit, students will engage with the work of academic historians as well as discussing and debating the nature of change in Russia over the 100 year time period.

Unit 4: *Personal Study*: Students choose their own significant event or individual in history and produce a Personal study of 3000-4000 words.

Entry Requirements

5 GCSE's at grades 9-5 including English Language and Maths.
Grade 6 or above in GCSE History

Careers

Students will develop a range of transferrable skills including the ability to analyse, debate, create a strong argument and communicate effectively. A well trained historian can process facts, arguments and viewpoints and build up strong points of view. Employers rate the skills of a historian very highly and history students find employment in a wide range of jobs including research, journalism and the media, management, public relations and law.



A LEVEL

Law

Level: 3
Subject Title: Law
Awarding Body: OCR
Course Code: 603/0706/7

Contact: Mrs Khan
Email: ikn@altrinchamcollege.com

Learning Methods and Assessment

A range of teaching and learning activities are utilised with emphasis on independent learning. The A Level is assessed through structured questions including descriptive, evaluative and problem-solving. Students will be involved in class discussions, problem solving and individual research; they are provided with detailed study packs and a class textbook as well as given regular assessments and guidance to help them monitor their own performance. A Level Law helps students develop a range of transferrable skills, analytical skills, attention to detail, logical thinking, research skills, essay writing skills and the ability to produce a balanced argument. Students are given the opportunity to visit the Crown Court, Parliament and the Supreme Court. They will meet different legal professionals and attend conferences to provide them with insight into the UK Legal System.



Course Content

Paper 1- The Legal System (including courts, personnel, and sentencing) and Criminal Law (including murder, manslaughter, defences, non-fatal offences and offences against property)

Paper 2- Law Making (including parliamentary law making, judicial law, making and delegated legislation) and the Law of Tort (including negligence, occupiers' liability and remedies)

Paper 3- The Nature of Law (including concepts of justice, law and morality) and Contract Law (including formation of a contract, terms of a contract and remedies)

In the final year of study, Law students are assessed on their ability to define the legal concepts, analyse the key legal issues and apply legal rules to problems.

The A Level qualification consists of three exam papers, each two hours long and each worth one third of the marks.

Entry Requirements

5 GCSE's at grades 9-5 including English Language and Maths.
Grade 6 in GCSE English Literature, History and/or R.E. is essential.

Careers

The A Level gives an excellent introduction for students who want to study law at university or start a legal apprenticeship. The broad nature of the subject makes it a useful foundation for many degrees. Students have gone on to study a range of subjects at university including law, criminology, history, psychology, business studies, ICT and accounting. Many students progress on to jobs in the legal profession, business, accounting and the police.



A LEVEL Maths

Level: 3
Subject Title: Mathematics
Awarding Body: EDEXCEL
Course Code: 603/1333/X

Contact: Miss Whitworth
Email: lwh@altrinchamcollege.com

Learning Methods and Assessment

Topics are taught through discussion and practise, using past paper questions to prepare for examinations.

Homework and independent learning tasks are set twice weekly and students are assessed after each unit of work covered.

Each exam at the end of Year 13 is equally weighted (100 marks) and assessed by three 2 hour written examinations.

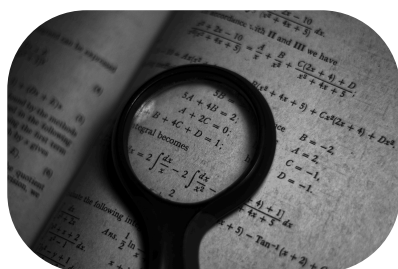
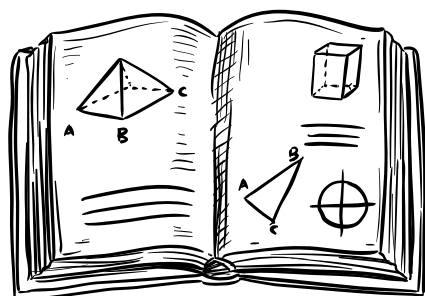
Paper 1 and 2: assesses Pure/Core mathematics

Paper 3: assesses Statistics and Mechanics

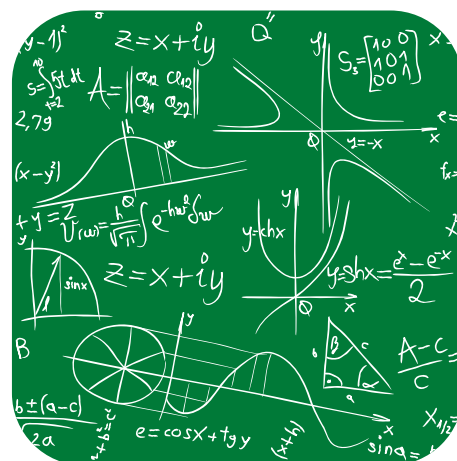
Course Content

The topics covered are a mixture of Pure/Core Mathematics (66% of course content), Statistics (17% of course content) and Mechanics (17% of course content).

Students learn the skills of mathematical argument, logic and proof, mathematical problem solving and mathematical modelling by studying the following topics:



Proof
Algebra and functions
Coordinate geometry
Sequences and series
Trigonometry
Exponentials and logarithms
Numerical methods
Differentiation
Integration
Statistical sampling
Data presentation and interpretation
Probability
Statistical distributions
Hypothesis testing
Quantities and units in mechanics
Vectors
Kinematics
Forces
Newton's Laws of Motion



Entry Requirements

5 GCSE's at grades 9-5 including English Language and Maths.
Minimum of Grade 7 in Maths GCSE required.

Careers

Mathematics is a highly valued qualification and is essential for many higher education courses and careers. This includes careers in the fields of Engineering, Computer Science, Robotics, Pure and Applied sciences, Medicine, Economics, Architecture, Accounting, Banking and Psychology.

The skills learnt from this A Level are highly transferrable to a number and variety of different career routes, leaving you with many options.



A LEVEL Psychology

Level: 3
Subject Title: Psychology
Awarding Body: EDEXCEL
Course Code: 601/5573/5

Contact: Mrs Ledward
Email: cld@altrinchamcollege.com

Learning Methods and Assessment

In each topic, students will learn about the key features and applications of the approach including important studies related to that topic, and also find out how research is conducted in that area of Psychology. All students will learn to use maths skills and statistical tests to help interpret data collected in assessed practical investigations and be expected to conduct interviews, questionnaires, experiments and observations.

Students will be required to form hypotheses and record results in a variety of ways, such as reports, graphs, and tables and use these results to reach a conclusion. A Level students will also be required to consider issues and debates from all topics within the Psychological Skills unit.

Students are directed to extended reading and research to develop their skills of evaluation and extended writing.

Paper 1- Foundations in Psychology - 2 hours (35% of the A Level qualification)

Paper 2- Applications of Psychology - 2 hours (25% of the A Level qualification)

Paper 3- Psychological Skills - 2 hours (30% of the A Level qualification)



Students need to have a real interest in people's behaviour and how this can be explained. They must be able to learn independently and be able to work to deadlines. Good maths and science skills will aid students in analysis, and they are expected to produce extended essays that draw from, and develop, their scientific thinking.

Psychology provides many opportunities to develop skills and assessing debates and arguments. You will need to; be willing to have your opinions and values challenged, be willing to listen to and take on board new ideas and novel arguments, be able to see both sides of an issue and not reject one side simply because you initially believe it is wrong.

Course Content

Students will study the following Media Disciplines: News, online media, advertising, marketing, music videos, radio, video games, TV and film. All of the above will be studied in relation to the key areas of the Theoretical Framework: Media Language, Media Audiences, Media Industries, Media Representation and Context. There is also a cross-media practical element to the course.

Entry Requirements

5 GCSE's at grades 9-5 including English Language, Maths and Science.
Grade 6 in English Language, Science and Maths is required.

Careers

The following sectors (to name but a few) value Psychology as a qualification; clinical psychology, education, business and management, sports and coaching and other allied medical professions.



A LEVEL Sociology

Level: 3
Subject Title: Sociology
Awarding Body: OCR
Course Code: 601/3997/3

Contact: Mrs Ledward
Email: cld@altrinchamcollege.com

Learning Methods and Assessment

Sociology is taught using a variety of methods and will enable you to understand the inter-relationships between individuals, groups, institutions and societies; critically analyse sources of information; organise and communicate your knowledge in an effective and creative way; reach balanced judgements.

The A Level course comprises of three assessment units which have a mixture of short, medium and extended written questions, some of which are based on source material. Skills in extended essay writing and analysis are developed throughout the course.

Year 1 will include the following examination units:

Socialisation; Culture and Identity (including youth subcultures); Researching and Understanding Social Inequalities

Year 2 will include:

Globalisation and the Digital World; Crime and Deviance

All examinations will take place at the end of Year 13, with three exams in total.

Course Content



Sociology is the scientific study of people in society. It uses various methods of empirical investigation to try and explain why different people behave in different ways and how our lives are shaped by factors such as social class, gender and ethnicity. Sociology students are expected to think critically, and make judgments based on sociological evidence and not 'common-sense' opinions, assumptions or stereotypes.



Entry Requirements and Expectations

5 GCSE's at grades 9-5 including English Language and Maths.

Grade 6 in English Language and English Literature is required.

Students must have a genuine interest of social issues and why British society is as it is. Students should keep up to date with current affairs and society. Students are expected to participate fully in lessons and be willing to discuss their ideas and opinions with others.

Careers

This course will help you develop skills, understanding and knowledge that employers across a variety of industries are looking for. The course will also help you to develop the skills of research, essay writing, independent learning and also strong critical thinking which will be an asset at university and beyond. Many students progress on to jobs in the public sector and policy making, government agencies, media and journalism, education and the criminal justice system.



A LEVEL

Spanish

Level: 3
Subject Title: Spanish
Awarding Body: AQA
Course Code: 601/8732/X

Contact: Mrs Casey
Email: ccy@altrinchamcollege.com

Learning Methods and Assessment

Students will be assessed at the end of Year 13 in the following ways:

Paper 1- Written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes (Listening, Reading and Writing)- 50% of A Level

Paper 2- Written exam: 2 hours- 20% of A Level

Paper 3- Speaking exam: 21-23 minutes- 30% of A Level

All students will have examinations at the end of Year 12 to benchmark progress.



Course Content

Over two years students will cover the following topics:

- Aspects of Hispanic society
- Artistic culture in the Hispanic world
- Multiculturalism in Hispanic society
- Aspects of political life in Hispanic society
- Grammar

Students are expected to participate fully in lessons in order to practise all four skill areas. They are also required to work independently, researching new topics and Spanish vocabulary. In addition to lessons and work in school, a substantial amount of work must be completed outside of the classroom. Students must keep up to date on world affairs, especially those in Spanish speaking countries, by accessing online Spanish news and radio on a weekly basis.

Entry Requirements

Five GCSE's at grades 9-5 including English Language and Maths.
Grade 6 or above in GCSE Spanish.

Careers

Learning Spanish is hugely rewarding, offering students the chance to travel and become familiar with cultures very different to their own. Spanish also offers huge career benefits in areas such as law, accountancy, catering, tourism, teaching and many others. Many UK based companies are now very aware of the need to be able to communicate in worldwide markets where English is not the first language



BTEC EXTENDED CERT.

Creative Digital Media

Level: 3
Subject Title: Creative Digital Media
Awarding Body: BTEC
Course Code: 601/7467/5

Contact: Mrs Walmsley
Email: pw@altrinchamcollege.com

Learning Methods and Assessment

This is a two year course which is structured around internally and externally assessed unit assignments which will allow students to make realistic media products using professional facilities and resources.

- This course is 58% externally assessed and 42% internally assessed
- Internally assessed units will be assessed by the subject teacher at regular intervals in order to monitor the progress made by students
- Externally assessed units will be assessed by the exam board but delivered by experienced teaching staff

The course is graded: Distinction*, Distinction, Merit, Pass

The **final grade for the Extended Certificate is equivalent to 1 A Level** and carries the same weighting in UCAS points per A*-E grade.



Course Content



The Extended Certificate is a two year qualification designed to be taken alongside other A Level subjects. This qualification offers students a valuable, vocational insight into the creative media industry, with a range of both practical and theory units. Students will complete a variety of engaging projects that are geared towards providing the relevant skills for a career in the Media Industry.

Units include: Video Production, Media Representations, Pre-production techniques and Responding to a Commission.

Students will learn and develop their understanding of the production processes involved.



Entry Requirements

5 GCSE's at grades 9-5 including English Language and Maths.

If you have completed a Creative and/or Media based subject at GCSE you must have achieved a minimum of a Grade 5. Grade 5 or above for GCSE IT would be an advantage but it is not essential.

Careers

Students can use this qualification to progress to university to study a Higher Education Foundation Degree, Higher Level Apprenticeship or other professional development programme. Some may enter a specialist area of employment.

Many potential careers can be found at creativeskillset.org.

OCR

Sport and Physical Activity

Level: 3- 1 A Level Equivalent
Subject Title: Sport and Physical Activity
Awarding Body: OCR
Course Code: 601/7093/1

Contact: Miss Holden
Email: rhn@altrinchamcollege.com

Learning Methods and Assessment

The course is both theoretical and practical. Assessment is through written exams, written assignments, presentations and practical performance.

The course is assessed by using the following criteria:

Pass
Merit
Distinction

Each of these carry points weighting **equal to that of 1 A Level**. Cambridge Technical grades carry equal university points to that of A Levels and when combined with other qualifications, can be used for entry onto Degree courses at university.

Course Content

This course prepares students directly for employment and it is suitable for those who wish to compliment their A Level Programme and enter a particular specialist area of work or university.

The Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate in Sport consists of three mandatory units plus two optional units. Mandatory units are:

- **Unit 1-** Anatomy and Physiology (written exam assessed externally)
- **Unit 2-** Sports Coaching and Activity Leadership
- **Unit 3-** Sports Organisation and Development (written exam assessed externally)

The optional units are:

- Unit 8- Organisation of Sports Events
- Unit 18- Practical Skills in Sport and Physical Activities



Entry Requirements

Five GCSE's at grades 9-5 including English Language, Maths and Science.
Minimum Grade 5 in GCSE P.E is desirable but not essential.

Careers

This qualification is relevant to a large number of university courses and areas of employment, including teaching, coaching, sports centre management, leisure services, sports development, sports nutrition, outdoor adventurous activities, armed services and the police.



AAQ IN COMPUTING

Application Development

Level: 3
Subject Title: Computing
Awarding Body: OCR
Course Code: 610/3975/5

Contact: Mr McWatt
Email: mmt@altrinchamcollege.com

Learning Methods and Assessment

This Applied Award Qualification in Computing is designed for students who thrive on practical learning and continuous assessment. Through a blend of coursework and one exam per year, you'll develop core computing skills in a supportive, project-led environment.

You can expect to:

- Develop real-world programming solutions
- Design and build your own game, website and applications
- Learn through hands-on tasks and projects
- Be assessed through coursework and one annual exam—ideal for those who prefer steady progress instead of examination assessments at the end of the course.

Course Content

This course is a Level 3 AAQ Cambridge Advanced National in Computing, a two-year course that is equivalent to one A-Level. This qualification will provide you with the opportunity to develop your knowledge and skills within the field of Computing. You will learn about the different stages that developers go through to produce a working software application. You will also learn the principles of UX (User Experience)/UI (User Interface) design and how to develop ideas for UX/UI solutions which meet specific requirements alongside the design process to create graphical representations. In the second year of the course, you will learn about software design principles and different programming language types; you will use a programming language to code designs to produce a computer game. You will also learn about website principles and how to develop a prototype website.

Course units:

- **Fundamentals of application development**
- **Developing application software**
- **Designing and communicating UX /UI solutions**
- **Game development**
- **Website development**



Entry Requirements

At least a Grade 4 in both English Language and Maths GCSE. Prior study of Computer science at GCSE would be desirable but is not essential.



Careers

Whether you are interested in software development, game design or digital problem-solving, this course equips you with the skills to take your next step in the field of technology. This is ideal for students that want to pursue a career in Computer Science, Computer Games Development, Computing, Creative Computing, Web and Mobile Development, Web and User Experience Design.

BTEC EXTENDED CERTIFICATE

Music Performance

Level: 3
Subject Title: Music Performance
Awarding Body: BTEC
Course Code: 601/7090/6

Contact: Mr Madden
Email: bmd@altrinchamcollege.com

Course Content

This course will allow you to immerse yourself in music and express yourself as a performer and/or composer. It will give you an understanding of the varied employment opportunities in the music industry, as well as practical experiences and performance opportunities to be proud of.

Our teaching at Altrincham College Sixth Form is carefully adapted to suit your own particular interests, abilities and aspirations- both in *what* you study and *how* you are assessed.

There are three mandatory units:

- Music Performance
- Music Composition
- Professional Practise in the Music Industry



You will then choose from a range of optional units to suit your musical tastes and abilities. These include solo and ensemble performance, composition, arranging music and music theory.

You will learn in a range of styles including practical lessons, rehearsing, composing, forming bands and groups, trips to studios, events and concerts.

Learning Methods and Assessment

Some units are externally assessed, while the others are internally assessed and grades Pass, Merit or Distinction.

A variety of methods are used including presentation, recordings, written projects, exams and performances.



Entry Requirements

Five GCSE's at grades 9-5 including English Language and Maths.

Grade 5 or above is required in GCSE Music, or Grade 4/5 standard on your instrument/voice. You should also have practical experience of performing and composing.

Careers

This course offers an extremely hands on subject that develops your skills as a musician and offers you more experience going in to the modern music industry.

Music students go on to many different careers within and beyond the world of music. The skills required to be a good musician (creativity, listening, perseverance, team skills) are greatly valued by further and higher education courses, and by employers in all walks of life.

We will encourage you to join or help lead one of our school music ensembles or choirs, and/or form your own band. You will have the opportunity to take part in performance in a range of venues, giving you musical experiences you will remember and cherish for the rest of your life!