

# Art and Design – (specification Fine Art)

Examination Board: AQA

## Why Art and Design?

In Art and Design the creative process gives students opportunities to understand art as something that matters in their lives. It gives students more choice, autonomy, and empowerment. In Art, the individual journey of discovery, risk taking and learning leads to an imaginative, self-aware learner. Students will work under the endorsement Fine Art and should produce practical and critical/contextual work in one or more areas of study, for example, drawing, painting, printmaking, mixed-media, sculpture, ceramics, installation, moving image (video, film, animation) and photography. **NB: Depending on demand, students can choose to study A Level Photography as a stand-alone course within the art department.**

## Subject Entry Requirements

A minimum grade of 7 or above is required in GCSE Art. For **those who have studied Art at another school before joining us, we request a portfolio is submitted so we may review your pieces and provide guidance and any relevant support.**

## Course Content

Component 1 Personal investigation	Students will complete a skill building, experimental introduction course during the Autumn term, based on a broad theme such as 'Man-made verses nature'. In February they will begin their <u>Component 1</u> , where students are required to conduct a <u>Personal Investigation</u> into an idea, issue, concept or theme, supported by written material. The focus of the investigation must be identified independently by the student and will lead to a finished outcome or a series of related finished outcomes. Around 1 hour of independent work and homework is expected for every hour taught to meet the demands of the course. Life drawing is offered as an extra-curricular course during Autumn and is strongly recommended to support the Component 1 portfolio.
Component 2 Externally set assignment	Students will be provided with AQA examination papers in February during the second year of the course. AQA set a choice of eight questions to be used as starting points. Students are required to select one. The preparatory period is 8 weeks from February. In May, students will complete 15 hours of unaided, supervised time during which they must produce a finished outcome or a series of related finished outcomes, informed by their preparatory work.
<b>Assessment level</b>	Component 1: 60% Component 2: 40%

## What can you expect during lessons?

Students will be introduced to a variety of experiences that explore a range of two-dimensional and/or three-dimensional media, processes and techniques. Students will explore the use of drawing for different purposes, using a variety of methods and media on a variety of scales. Practical work will be informed by the work of other artists, designers and photographers, including work from primary sources during visits to galleries and museums. There is an emphasis on risk-taking and exploring the wider issues and concepts of art and design. All work will be documented in sketchbooks, including self-assessment and critical analysis.

## What opportunities can studying Art provide?

This subject covers many disciplines and is particularly suitable for those who wish to pursue degree courses and related careers in fine art as well as design (graphic, 3D, fashion and textile, jewellery), photography, film and animation, architecture, games design, advertising, marketing and illustration. Many of our students progress onto Art Foundation courses in preparation for their chosen degree courses.

## What have students that have studied Art A Level at Wallington Girls gone on to study at university?

Previously our Fine Art students have progressed onto: Medicine; Dentistry; Architecture; Visual Communication; Visual Effects with Graphic communication; Art Foundation, English, History, Business Management; Politics with Philosophy and Ethics; apprenticeships.

# Biology

Examination Board: Edexcel, SNAB (Salters Nuffield 'A' Level Biology)

## Why Biology?

Biology is a dynamic and fascinating subject that helps you make sense of the living world around you — from the smallest cells to entire ecosystems. It's a subject that stays relevant, connecting classroom learning to real-world issues like climate change, disease, and biotechnology. If you enjoy problem solving, critical thinking, and applying your mathematical and analytical skills, Biology offers a challenging and rewarding experience. Success in this subject requires curiosity, resilience, and a willingness to engage with ideas both in and beyond the classroom. With a strong focus on independent learning and scientific literacy, Biology is an excellent choice for students keen to explore the complexities of life and prepare for a wide range of future careers.

## Subject Entry Requirements

A grade 7 in GCSE Biology.

## Course Content

Topic 1	Lifestyle, health and risk
Topic 2	Genes and health
Topic 3	Voice of the genome
Topic 4	Biodiversity and natural resources
Topic 5	On the wild side
Topic 6	Infection, immunity and forensics
Topic 7	Run for life
Topic 8	Grey Matter

These topics are then assessed across 3 papers. Each written paper is 2hours in length and these are sat at the end of Year 13.

A level	9BN01 (Paper 1)	The Natural Environment & Species Survival
	9BN02 (Paper 2)	Energy, Exercise & Coordination.
	9BN03 (Paper 3)	General and Practical Applications in Biology

**Students will also be working towards a Science Practical Endorsement which will be internally assessed and externally moderated. It will appear on the exam certificate as a pass or fail but will not contribute to the A Level grade.**

## What can you expect during lessons?

Practical work, independent learning (including interactive), discussions, debates, group work, visits, data analysis and presentation. 15% of the marks awarded are for Mathematics so this will also be a regular component of lessons.

## What opportunities will studying Biology provide?

Studying Biology opens the door to a broad range of academic and career pathways. It is a vital subject for those interested in life sciences, medicine, veterinary science, environmental and marine biology, biotechnology, and forensic science. Biology also underpins key sectors such as pharmaceuticals, agriculture, food production, and scientific research. At A Level, it complements subjects like Chemistry, Physics, and Mathematics, while also offering strong connections with Geography, Psychology, Physical Education, and Food Science. Whether you're aiming for a science-based degree, a healthcare profession, or simply want to develop valuable analytical and problem-solving skills, Biology provides a solid foundation for future success.

## What have students that have studied Biology A Level at Wallington Girls gone on to study at university?

Students who have studied Biology A Level at our school have gone on to pursue a wide variety of degree courses at top universities. Many have chosen biology-related and medically focused degrees, including Medicine, Veterinary Science, Biomedical Sciences, Nursing, and Environmental Science. Others have taken their analytical and critical thinking skills into fields such as Psychology, Business, Sports Science, and even the Humanities, including English and Philosophy. A strong grade in A Level Biology is highly valued by universities and opens doors to an impressive range of future opportunities, both within science and beyond.

# Chemistry

## Examination Board: AQA

A-level Chemistry is a rigorous, challenging and ultimately rewarding course that develops students' scientific skills and knowledge. The AQA course followed at Wallington High School for Girls ensures that the subject content is relevant to real world experiences and is interesting to teach and learn. This Chemistry specification is a stepping stone to future study, which has been designed in consultation with universities, to ensure this specification allows students to develop the skills that they want to see. This approach has led to a specification that helps to inspire students, nurture their passion for chemistry and lay the groundwork for further study in courses such as chemistry, medicine and pharmacy. This qualification is linear with three external examinations as well as a practical assessment unit.

### Why Chemistry?

A-level Chemistry is a requirement for many University courses – particularly Science-related courses. It demonstrates that you are numerate and good at problem-solving. It is also a great deal of fun.

### Subject Entry Requirements

A grade 7 in GCSE Chemistry.

### Course Content

The exams will measure how students have achieved the following assessment objectives.

AO1: Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of scientific ideas, processes, and techniques.

AO2: Apply knowledge and understanding of scientific ideas, processes, techniques and procedures

AO3: Analyse, interpret and evaluate scientific information, ideas and evidence

Component	Percentage
Paper 1	35%
Paper 2	35%
Paper 3	30%

### What can you expect during lessons?

Robustly resourced, well sequenced lessons delivered through expert modelling and instruction. Understanding is continuously checked through formative assessment and scaffolding provided to ensure all students learn and thrive. Concepts are reinforced through routine practice of both current topics and previous content.

### What opportunities will studying Chemistry provide?

Entry into medicine, veterinary science, pharmaceuticals, biology courses. Problem-solving and planning skills feature in various fields.

### What have students that have studied Chemistry A Level at Wallington Girls gone on to study at university?

Biomedical sciences, medicine, law, maths with economics, physics, biology, chemistry, pharmacy, interior design, business management, forensic science, medical physiology, veterinary science, economics, philosophy, accounting and finance, civil engineering, diagnostic radiotherapy and medical imaging, mechanical engineering with biomechanics, optometry, psychology, dentistry, dietetics, pharmaceutical and chemical sciences.

## Classical Civilisations

Examination Board: OCR

### Why Classics?

Perfect for enquiring minds that like to come to their own conclusions and enjoy reading and thinking. This course has clear links to Drama and Literature, Philosophy, History, Politics, Psychology, Art & Architecture, etc.

The multi-disciplinary nature of Classical Civilisation means that students will be developing highly sophisticated transferable skills that have universal application in a variety of fields.

### Subject Entry Requirements

No additional requirements, except love of learning

### Course Content

A Level	Component 1 The World of the Hero	Ancient Epic: Homer's <i>Iliad</i> AND Vergil's <i>Aeneid</i>
	Component 2 Culture & the Arts	Greek Theatre (including): Sophocles' <i>Oedipus the King</i> , Euripides' <i>Bacchae</i> , AND Aristophanes' <i>Frogs</i> Greek Theatre (Theatres of Dionysus & Thorikos) Art (Greek vases, i.e. mythology, etc.)
	Component 3 Beliefs & Ideas	Love & Relationships (including): Women in Greece and Rome (History) Plato (Philosophy) Seneca (Philosophy) Sappho (Poetry) Ovid (Poetry)
Assessment	Three written examinations	

### What can you expect during lessons?

Lectures, presentations, group/ individual research, seminars, discussions, conferences / visits.

### What opportunities will studying Classics provide?

Classics complements other literary and historically based subjects (see above). It gives excellent preparation for university and beyond, as the analytical skills required anticipate thinking at a far higher level.

More importantly, Classical Civilisation is an extremely thought-provoking discipline that explores complex ideas and themes in fascinating and fun ways.

### What have students that have studied Classics A Level at Wallington Girls gone on to study at university?

A high percentage of students who take this course go on to study Classics and/ or Classics-related subjects (i.e. Combined English/Classics, Ancient History, Archaeology, etc.) at top universities; Classics students have also studied Classics beyond undergraduate level (i.e. MA, PhD).

Ancient History  
Archaeology  
English Literature  
History  
Art  
Drama  
Dance  
Philosophy  
Psychology  
Chemistry  
Japanese  
Politics  
Law

# Computer Science

Examination Board: OCR

## Why Computer Science?

Computer Science is an important, fundamental, academic discipline underpinning other subjects. This will enable students to:

1. Develop problem solving skills
2. Exercise creativity
3. Explore wider interests and application of Computer Science techniques

## Subject Entry Requirements

Grade 7 in GCSE Computer Science.

## Course Content

- Section 1: Components of a computer
- Section 2: Systems software
- Section 3: Software development
- Section 4: Exchanging data
- Section 5: Networks and web technologies
- Section 6: Data types
- Section 7: Data Structures
- Section 8: Boolean algebra
- Section 9: Legal, moral, ethical and cultural issues
- Section 10: Computational thinking
- Section 11: Programming techniques
- Section 12: Algorithms

## Assessment

A level	Paper 1	40% of A level - Computer Systems
	Paper 2	40% of A level – Algorithms and programming
	Project work	20% of A level - Programming

## What can you expect during lessons?

Self assessment, discussion, coding, computer based programming and testing. emphasis on risk-taking and exploring the wider issues and concepts of computing and the effect on society for example Artificial Intelligence, independent learning and development.

## What opportunities will studying Computer Science provide?

This subject links well with all areas of Computing for example, Aerospace, Software developer, Games developer, Medical Technology development etc. It is also well accepted into a much wider range of different subject/ careers such as Engineering.

## What have students that have studied Computer Science A Level at Wallington Girls gone on to study at university?

Maths and Computer Science, Computer Science, Games Design, Digital and Technological Solutions as well as many other non-Computer Science related courses.

# Design and Technology – Product Design

Examination Board: AQA

## Why Product Design?

If you have an interest in Design and how it is present in our everyday lives, this is the course for you.

This course is highly suited to those who enjoy the practical elements of design. New materials and technologies are explored along with modern industrial practices. CAD/CAM will be involved in all coursework elements and students who enjoy exploring various solutions to practical briefs will find this a highly motivating and stimulating course to follow. If you are fascinated by the detail, the new technologies available and how products are promoted, you will enjoy this course. An eye for design and a willingness to be creative are more essential than artistic talent.

### **Subject Entry Requirements**

A grade 7 in GCSE Design & Technology, Product Design.

### **Course Content**

The A-level course will cover materials and manufacture across the very broad area of product design. You will study existing product solutions, design history and practical techniques to realise your ideas. The course also links strongly with other subject areas and imbeds techniques and practices from art and design, business, computer science, maths, physics and geography.

### **Assessment**

There are three coursework elements – an investigation study and research into a design problem, the creative design of a prototype and a practical skills assessment of the final made prototype (NEA). This will account for 50% of the final grade. In addition, there are two exams; paper 1 Technical Principles (2.5 hours) accounts for 30% and paper 2, Design and Making Principles (1.5 hours), accounts for the final 20%.

### **What can you expect during lessons?**

A hands-on approach to all practical elements, defined theory lessons, group presentations, lecture and research topics, visits where possible.

### **What opportunities will studying Product Design provide?**

Careers in product design and manufacture, architecture, interior design, engineering in all its various elements, graphic design, arts and the media, computer graphics, theatre and TV set design.

### **What have students that have studied Product Design A Level at Wallington Girls gone on to study at university?**

Often students will go on to study Product Design, Industrial Design, Furniture Design, Architecture, Interior Design, Graphic Design or Theatre and TV set Design at degree level. We have also had a student go onto study Product Design in the Netherlands on an international course taught solely in English. Some students have also studied Design Technology as a teaching qualification.

Engineering in a variety of forms including Bio-medical, Structural, Mechanical, Civil, Environmental, Aerospace, Aeronautical, Automotive, Electrical, Mechatronics, Computer, Robotic, Materials Science, Industrial, Manufacturing, Geotechnical and Marine Engineering to name but a few.

## **Drama and Theatre Studies**

**Examination Board: Edexcel**

### **Why Drama?**

You will experience a wide range of dramatic activities that can prepare you for Degree level study or conservatoire training in Theatre. You will also develop your leadership, team-work and public speaking skills as well as your ability to think creatively, problem solve and produce creative projects to a deadline.

### **Subject Entry Requirements**

A grade 7 in GSCE Drama OR a grade 7 in English with evidence of involvement in Drama-related activities such as amateur productions, LAMDA or Stagecoach.

### **Course Content**

- Exploration of published scripts through practical exploration and written evaluation
- Directed performance of a published play for an audience
- Directed performance of a monologue for an examiner
- Analysis of professional performance as a commercial review
- Creation of own devised material and performance for an audience

### **Assessment**

**Component 1 - worth 40% of the A Level**

Students devise a piece of theatre which you then perform as part of a group. You will record the process and create a portfolio, which is internally marked and externally moderated.

### **Component 2 - worth 20% of the A Level**

Students are directed in a group performance from a set text.  
Students are directed in a monologue or duologue from a different set text.  
Performances are externally assessed by a visiting examiner.

### **Component 3 – worth 40% of the A Level**

Students explore, through practical workshops, a set text from the viewpoint of an actor.  
Students explore, through practical workshops, a set second set text from the viewpoint of a theatre director.  
Students evaluate a piece of live, professionally performed theatre.  
Written examination paper. 2 hours 30 minutes.  
This is externally marked by Edexcel.

### **What can you expect during lessons?**

Acting workshops and practical work, individual written work, visits to the theatre, master classes by visiting professionals.

### **What opportunities will studying Drama provide?**

This course will provide you with the skills and knowledge to move on to a range of academic and vocational performing arts courses. The interpersonal skills developed transfer to all other subjects studied but this course particularly works well with several Humanities subjects such as Law, Psychology, Classical Civilisations, History, English and Media courses and of course, Acting or technical- related courses.

### **What have students that have studied Drama A Level at Wallington Girls gone on to study at university?**

English at Cambridge  
Classics at Cambridge  
German and Spanish at Oxford University  
Drama at E15 Acting School  
Musical Theatre at Guildford School of Acting  
Drama and Film Studies at Exeter University  
Theatre and French at Bristol  
English Literature at Cambridge  
English and Film Studies at Royal Holloway, London  
English and Creative Writing at Leeds University  
English and Theatre Studies at Warwick University  
Philosophy and Politics at Bristol University  
History and Philosophy at York University  
Cognitive and Clinical Neuroscience at Westminster University  
Psychology at University of Bristol  
Physiotherapy at St. Georges University Hospital  
Dentistry at Kings College, London  
Radiotherapy at City University of London  
Medicine at St. Georges University Hospital  
Politics and International Relations at Queen Mary University  
Law at University of York

## **Economics**

**Examination Board: EDEXCEL (Specification A)**

### **Why Economics?**

This is a subject that is constantly changing. It appeals to students who are fascinated by what is going on around them and want to discover the contribution economics makes to the world. The course will show you how individual markets, the UK and the Global Economy function. If you have an enquiring, logical and critical mind, this subject will help you to develop an ability to think as an economist and equip you with the knowledge and theoretical foundations needed to understand the complex economic and social environment in which we all operate. Studying Economics will also support you in developing your analytical and quantitative skills, together with the qualities and attitudes that will equip you for the challenges, opportunities and responsibilities of adult and working life

### Subject Entry Requirements

A grade 7 in GCSE Mathematics **and** English Language **or** Literature.

### Course Content

<b>A level</b>	Paper One (Micro-Economics)	Theme 1: Markets and business behaviour  Theme 3: Business behaviour and the labour market.
	Paper Two (Macro-Economics)	Theme 2: The UK economy – performance and policies  Theme 4: A global perspective
	Paper Three (Macro-Economics and Micro Economics)	Themes 1,2,3 and 4 in Economics: (Synoptic paper)
<b>Assessment</b>	Exam 3 x 2 hrs	

### What can you expect during lessons?

Real life case studies, simulations, discussions on economic articles and events, problem solving exercises. Independent reading, collecting and analysing data, together with essay writing and directed reading beyond the contents of the lessons. You will also have the opportunity throughout the course to participate in Economic Competitions.

### What opportunities will studying Economics provide?

Economists are employed by a wide range of organisations including investment and commercial banks, large corporations, media companies, government departments (including the Treasury), the Bank of England, pressure groups and institutional investors.

The course also provides you with the opportunity to pursue an Economics degree and focus upon a variety of different areas of economics. For example: A focus upon environmental economics, labour economics, environmental economics or monetary economics. The course also opens up opportunities to study Economics with Mathematics at degree level.

### What have students that have studied Economics A Level at Wallington Girls gone on to study at university?

Economics, Economic History, Philosophy, Politics & Economics (PPE), International Finance, Insurance, Management and Accountancy, Banking, Professional Economist positions, International Relations & Economics, Finance & Accountancy, Mathematics & Economics.

## English Literature

Examination Board: Eduqas (WJEC)

### Why English Literature?

If you enjoyed English Literature at GCSE, particularly those times when your analysis of a writer's language, ideas and context came together to make a coherent, intellectually satisfying whole, then A-Level Literature is for you. To take this course is to embrace richly challenging texts, driven by profound ideas about humanity and the way we live - and to be taken seriously as a literary critic; your ideas matter. Through discussion, close analysis and research, you will become adept at crafting analysis. Our course texts, as offered by the excellent Eduqas exam board, range from Shakespeare's tragedy *King Lear*, to the humid New Orleans tensions of *A Streetcar Named Desire* and the vicious injustices of revenge tragedy *The Duchess of Malfi*. We explore the epic story of mankind's fall from grace in *Paradise Lost* and the unique voices in the poetry of Duffy and Larkin. Another key component, completed in year 13, is a coursework essay in which you will compare a classic novel with a contemporary one. We are enthusiasts for the texts we teach, and hope you will be soon, too.

### Subject Entry Requirements

A grade 7 in GCSE English Language **and** English Literature.

### Course Content

The course consists of 4 components:



<b>A level</b>	Component 1	Poetry – 30 % of qualification Pre -1900 – Milton <i>Paradise Lost</i> Post 1900 – Philip Larkin <i>The Whitsun Weddings</i> and Carol Ann Duffy <i>Mean Time</i>
	Component 2	Drama – 30% of qualification Shakespeare – <i>King Lear</i> Drama – Comparison of <i>The Duchess of Malfi</i> and <i>A Streetcar Named Desire</i>
	Component 3	Unseen texts – 20% of qualification Unseen Prose (from 1890-1910) Unseen Poetry
	Component 4	Prose Study – 20% of qualification 2500-3500 word assignment based on two prose texts (one pre-2000 and one post-2000); these can be chosen independently by the student (20%; coursework)
<b>Assessment</b>	Three 2 hour exams (80% of qualification) One comparative coursework essay (20% of qualification)	

### What can you expect during lessons?

Set texts are analysed closely together in class, using discussion and debate to broaden ideas and test interpretation; this works alongside independent reading, short written tasks and essay-writing. Students will develop their ability to understand and apply literary criticism to texts as well as gain deep knowledge of contextual influences.

### What opportunities will studying English Literature provide?

Along with further study of Literature at degree level, many English Literature students use their communication and analytical skills for a wide range of careers from advertising, law, publishing and journalism to management consultancy and finance. Students will develop their research and independent reading skills as well as learn to write with precision and flair. These are crucial study skills needed for post 16 academia. We also hope that students will continue to be curious about the world around them by fostering a lifelong love of reading.

### What have students that have studied English Literature A Level at Wallington Girls gone on to study at university?

Degree choices for English students are often very diverse. Graduates of A Level English Literature at Wallington have gone on to study Literature, Law, Politics, Creative Writing and Psychology at universities such as Cambridge, Oxford and a range of Russell group institutions. Other study options have included Architecture, Biological Sciences, Classical Studies, Philosophy, HSPS (Human, Social and Political Sciences), Drama and Civil Engineering.

## Film Studies

Examination Board: Eduqas (WJEC)

### Why Film Studies?

Film is one of the main cultural innovations of the 20th century and a major art form of the last hundred years. Those who study it characteristically bring with them a high degree of enthusiasm and excitement for what is a powerful and culturally significant medium, inspiring a range of responses from the emotional to the reflective. Film Studies consequently makes an important contribution to the curriculum, offering the opportunity to investigate how film works both as a medium of representation and as an aesthetic medium.

### Subject Entry Requirements

No additional requirements.

### Course Content

Component 1: Varieties of Film and filmmaking	Written Exam: 2 ½ hrs	35% of the A level
	Section A: Hollywood 1930-1990 (comparative study)	<i>Classical Hollywood and New Hollywood</i>
	Section B: American Film since 2005 (two- film study)	<i>Mainstream and contemporary independent film</i>

	Section C: British Film since 1995 (two- film study)	<i>Two British films</i>
<b>Component 2: Global filmmaking perspectives</b>	<b>Written Exam 2 ½ hrs</b>	<b>35% of the A level</b>
	Section A: Global Film (two- film study)	<i>One European and one non- European film</i>
	Section B: Documentary Film	<i>One Documentary film</i>
	Section C: Film Movements- Silent cinema	<i>One silent film</i>
	Section D: Film Movements- Experimental film (1960-2000)	<i>One experimental film</i>
<b>Component 3: Production</b>	<b>Non- Examined Assessment</b>	<b>30% of the A level</b>
	<b>Either a short film (4-5 minutes) Or a screenplay (1600-1800 words) And an evaluative analysis</b>	

### What can you expect during lessons?

Learning occurs through both teacher and student-led lessons, discussion and seminar-style teaching as well as live-modelling and editing of written responses. As a department, we pride ourselves on one- to one feedback and understanding our students' individual needs. We will expect students to manage their time and will set them extensive research and reading which they will do independently and feedback to the class in the form of presentations.

### Why study Film?

Film Studies encourages students to be critical thinkers who learn to evaluate the impact of such a culturally significant medium. They will be encouraged to question and critique and explore the diversity of film culture. Studying Film offers the opportunity to explore a range of important ideas and emotions, reflect on art and technology and connect theory and creative practices.

### What have students that have studied Film Studies A Level at Wallington Girls gone on to study at university?

Film Studies is a new qualification at WHSG. Students who have taken Film Studies have gone on to study Law, Philosophy, TV Production, Media and Communication, Marketing and Digital design.

## French

Examination Board: AQA

### Why French?

Studying a modern language is well-respected in higher education and by employers. The course not only allows you to further your linguistic knowledge but also fosters the ability to express yourself in a clear, logical and well-reasoned way on a wide variety of topics at an academic level. Languages combine well with almost any other subject. French is spoken in many countries throughout the world and remains one of the working languages of the UN.

### Subject Entry Requirements

A grade 7 in GCSE French.

### Course Content

<b>A Level</b>	<u>Aspects of French-speaking society; current trends</u> family and values, the "cyber society" the place of voluntary work <u>Artistic Culture in the French-speaking world</u> culture contemporary music cinema <u>Aspects of French-speaking society; current issues</u> positive aspects of a diverse society life for the marginalized crime and how criminals are treated
----------------	--

	<u>Aspects of political life in the French-speaking world</u> teenagers, the right to vote and political commitment, demonstrations and strikes – who holds the power? politics and immigration <u>Cultural Topic</u> students study 1 book and 1 film <u>Individual Research Topic</u> students conduct individual research on a subject of personal interest, relating to the francophone world (for oral only) <u>Grammar</u> students study the grammatical system and structure of French.	
<b>Assessment</b>	Unit 1	Listening, reading, translation and writing assessment – 2 hrs 30 minutes – 50% of A Level
	Unit 2	Writing assessment on the book and film studied – 2 hrs – 20% of A Level
	Unit 3	Speaking Assessment – approximately 20 minutes (including 5 minutes preparation time) – 30% of A Level

### What can you expect during lessons?

Reading and listening to authentic materials in class, written tasks, discussion in the target language, debate and conversation, regular tutorial sessions with the French Language Assistant, online materials.

### What opportunities will be studying French provide?

Studying French will provide you with the opportunity to develop your interpersonal, reasoning, communication, listening and presentation skills. Students of French are often praised and appreciated by both universities and employers for their highly developed communication skills. Employers relish the opportunity to take on linguists and there is currently a gap in the workplace for speakers of other languages.

### What have students that have studied French A Level at Wallington Girls gone on to study at university?

Students have in the past gone on to study a range of courses at university including languages, medicine, science, law, humanities, economics to name but a few. Often, students choose to combine their language learning with other interests and take a joint degree such as Law with French or take an entirely new language such as French with Arabic.

## Geography

Examination Board: Edexcel

### Why Geography?

Geography is the subject which holds the key to our future. It provides the framework for inquisitive and imaginative humans to search for solutions to the global challenges that face us. The subject covers a wide variety of topics which appeal to many - from natural hazards to health, human rights and development. It is also one of the few subjects that deals with a range of contemporary and pressing issues that we are currently facing in the world today. Geography at WHSG is a dynamic subject, which helps you to understand the world around us. It provides opportunities to study many local, national and global issues from climate change to migration. It will also offer you the chance to develop your independent thought and valuable skills for the future.

### Subject Entry Requirements

A grade 7 in GCSE Geography.

### Course Content

<b>A level</b>	Area of study 1	Dynamic Landscapes (including Tectonics and Coasts)
	Area of study 2	Dynamic Places (including Globalisation and Regenerating Places)
	Area of study 3	Physical Systems and Sustainability (including climate change, the water cycle & water insecurities, the carbon cycle and energy security)
	Area of study 4	Human Systems and Geopolitics (including superpowers, migration & health, human rights and development)

## Assessment

There will be three exam papers completed in the summer after two years of study, accounting for 80% of the whole A level:

<b>Paper 1</b>	Exam covering all areas of study relating to physical geography	2 hours 15 mins, worth 30% of the whole A level
<b>Paper 2</b>	Exam covering all areas of study relating to human geography	2 hours 15 mins, worth 30% of the whole A level
<b>Paper 3</b>	Exam includes a synoptic investigation linking the three themes (Players, Actions & Attitudes, Futures & Uncertainties) across all areas of study.	2 hours 15mins, worth 20% of the whole A level

The final 20% of the A level is comprised of coursework-an independent investigation. The topic of this is chosen by the student, based on any part of the geography A level syllabus. Past titles have included: How has the perception of crime changed in Stratford since regeneration? How does beach sediment vary along Durdle Door beach on the Dorset Coast?

### What can you expect during lessons?

Discussion; field trips & visits; group work; research; role plays; structured independent study.

### What opportunities will studying Geography provide?

As a subject linking the arts and the sciences it is highly flexible in terms of what you can combine it with. The course links well with most A level subjects – particularly History, Economics, Science, Philosophy and Ethics, as the skills acquired studying geography A level are particularly transferable here.

Employers and Universities see geography as a robust academic subject rich in skills, knowledge and understanding. If you choose to take geography on to university there are literally hundreds of courses to choose from and the range of career areas accessed by graduates of geography will probably surprise you. Geography graduates are very employable, as the skills, knowledge and understanding gained during a geography degree are held in high regard by many businesses. Geographical data is prized, and it is estimated that 80% of all data now collected has some geographical feature; geographers being best placed to interpret it (rgs.org).

*"More than ever we need the geographer's skills and foresight to help us learn about our planet – how we use it and how we abuse it" - Michael Palin*

### What have students that have studied Geography A Level at Wallington Girls gone on to study at university?

Past geography A level students have gone on to study a range of topics at university including Medicine, English Literature, Mathematics, Politics, Languages, Biology, Economics, Dentistry and of course Geography, Environmental Science, Earth Science, International Relations, Engineering, Urban Planning and Disaster Management.

## German

Examination Board: AQA

### Why German?

Studying a modern language is extremely well-respected in higher education as well as by employers. The course not only allows you to further your linguistic knowledge, but also foster the ability to express yourself in a clear, logical and well-reasoned way on a wide variety of topics at an academic level. Languages combine well with almost any other range of subjects. German is the most widely spoken language in Europe, and Germany is the UK's biggest trading partner.

### Subject Entry Requirements

A grade 7 in GCSE German.

<b>A Level</b>	<u>Aspects of German-speaking society; current trends</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>the changing state of the family</li><li>the digital world</li><li>youth culture: fashion and trends, music, television</li></ul> <u>Artistic Culture in the German-speaking world</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>festivals and traditions</li><li>art and architecture</li></ul>
----------------	--

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• cultural life in Berlin, past and present</li> </ul> <u>Multiculturalism in German-speaking society</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• immigration</li> <li>• integration</li> <li>• racism</li> </ul> <u>Aspects of political life in the German-speaking world</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Germany and the European Union</li> <li>• politics and youth</li> <li>• German reunification and its consequences</li> </ul> <u>Cultural Topic</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• students study 1 book and 1 film</li> </ul> <u>Individual Research Topic</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• students conduct individual research on a subject of personal interest, relating to Germany (for oral only)</li> </ul> <u>Grammar</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• students study the grammatical system and structure of German</li> </ul>	
<b>Assessment</b>	Unit 1	Listening, reading, translation and writing assessment – 2 hrs 30 minutes – 50% of A Level
	Unit 2	Writing assessment on the book and film studied – 2 hrs – 20% of A Level
	Unit 3	Speaking Assessment – approximately 20 minutes (including 5 minutes preparation time) – 30% of A Level

#### **What can you expect during lessons?**

Reading and listening to authentic materials in class, written tasks, discussion in the target language, debate and conversation, regular tutorial sessions with the German Language Assistant, online resources

#### **What opportunities will studying German provide?**

Studying German will provide you with the opportunity to develop your interpersonal, reasoning, communication and presentation skills. Students of German are often praised and appreciated by both universities and employers for their highly developed communication skills. Employers relish the opportunity to take on linguists and there is currently a gap in the workplace for speakers of other languages.

#### **What have students who have studied German A Level at Wallington Girls gone on to study at university?**

As well as German on its own, many students have studied German combined with another language (which may be from scratch, such as Russian or Italian), or as a joint degree with subjects like History or Philosophy. Other choices have combined German with Linguistics, Law, International Business, Economics, English. An A Level language is a good complement for those doing science-based subjects to demonstrate strong communication skills and is well-regarded by universities.

# Politics

Examination Board: Edexcel

## Why Politics?

This is a subject that is fast moving and dynamic. It is for students who are fascinated by what is going on in the world around them. The course will show you how the UK political system works and make you ask questions about how it might be improved upon. If you enjoy thinking for yourself and not following the crowd; this subject will help to give you knowledge and an intellectual framework around which to develop your own ideas on a range of important political issues.

## Subject Entry Requirements

*No additional requirements*

## Course Content

<b>A level</b>	Component 1	UK Politics and Core Political Ideas
	Component 2	UK Government and Optional Political Ideas
	Component 3	Comparative Politics –Global Politics
<b>Assessment</b>	Exam 3 x 2 hrs	

## What can you expect during lessons?

Discussions, formal debates, construction of political arguments, experiments, and simulations.

## What opportunities will studying Government and Politics provide?

Apart from going into politics, students often have careers in law, journalism, broadcasting, business or the public sector.

## What have students that have studied Politics A Level at Wallington Girls gone on to study at university?

Government & Politics, International Relations, Law, Economics, Finance, Management, Social and Political Sciences to name but a few.

# History

Examination Board: Edexcel

## Why History?

This varied and exciting course will develop your understanding of past societies and our rapidly changing world today. It will also help to develop essential transferable core skills, highly valued by employers. History is a distinctive subject which combines a sense of the past with understanding of the present, increasing awareness of different values and cultures and enhancing qualities of perception, analysis and judgement.

## Subject Entry Requirements

A grade 7 in GCSE History.

## Course Content

<b>A level</b>	Unit 1	Russia 1917-91: from Lenin to Yeltsin (30%)
	Unit 2	Mao's China, 1949-1976 (20%)
	Unit 3	Britain: Gaining and losing an empire, 1773-1914 (30%)
	Unit 4	Coursework essay (20%)
<b>Assessment</b>	Three timed exams and one coursework essay (3000 to 4000 words)	

## What can you expect during lessons?

Lessons will consist of paired and group activities as well as individual tasks. Reading will be expected to be done outside of lessons, alongside additional research to develop a depth of knowledge essential to success across all four units. Class time will include discussions, role plays, presentation tasks as well as essay analysis and planning, allowing you to develop the skills required of a young historian.

## What opportunities will studying History provide?

Historians go on to become lawyers, teachers, civil servants, journalists, political advisors and speech writers as well as politicians. They work in local government as well as in the arts and charity sectors. In fact, the opportunities are almost limitless.

#### **What have students that have studied History A Level at Wallington Girls gone on to study at university?**

Studying History at A level only widens your options for university study. Of course our students go on to study History but they have also gone on to study: History with Politics; History and Philosophy; International Relations; War Studies; PPE; Mathematics; Medicine; Physics with Philosophy; French and Arabic; South East Asian Studies; English Literature; American Studies. In short, studying A level History adds a valuable dimension to your breadth of knowledge, helps to make you a very interesting person and allows you to keep all your options open when it comes to your next move.

## **Mathematics**

**Examination Board: Edexcel**

#### **Why Mathematics?**

Mathematics is widely regarded as an exacting academic subject, showing that the successful student is intelligent and capable of abstract thought and problem solving. It teaches the skills of thinking logically and independently, developing valuable transferable skills. Mathematics is challenging and rewarding and significantly increases the opportunities to access competitive university courses and the highest earning jobs.

#### **Subject Entry Requirements**

A grade 7 in GCSE Mathematics.

#### **Course Content**

<b>Structure</b>	2 modules in Pure Maths and 1 module in Applied
<b>Assessment</b>	3 Timed 2 hour exams, no coursework

#### **What can you expect during lessons?**

Teacher-led discussion of concepts to develop understanding, independent study, whole class academic sessions and examination question practice.

#### **What opportunities will studying Mathematics provide?**

Mathematics can be combined with any other subject choice. It is particularly helpful to those wishing to study Medicine, Veterinary Science, Dentistry, Sciences, ICT, Technology, Engineering, Psychology, Geography, and Business Studies / Economics at university.

#### **What have students that have studied Mathematics A Level at Wallington Girls gone on to study at university?**

We have a large cohort of Mathematicians who have gone on to study many diverse subjects at university from Mathematics through Engineering, Physics, Economics, Finance, Medicine, Dentistry, Architecture, Geography and Philosophy to History.

## **Further Mathematics**

**Examination Board: Edexcel**

#### **Why Further Mathematics?**

Further Mathematics is regarded as one of the premier A-level courses. It marks out the successful student as an excellent Mathematician, capable of high levels of abstract thought and problem solving. Further Maths is a rewarding and intellectually demanding course. It extends talented students, introducing them to the more complex abstract ideas of Mathematics.

#### **Subject Entry Requirements**

A grade 9 in GCSE Mathematics.

This course can only be taken alongside Mathematics and together, they will, therefore, take up **TWO** of your A level options. Students taking Further Mathematics must do this as their fourth A Level option.

Students must show a good level of progress in Year 12 in order to continue onto the Year 13 course.

#### **Course Content**

<b>A levels</b>	2 modules in Pure Maths and 1 module in Applied 2 modules in Further Maths and 2 modules in Further Applied Maths
-----------------	--

### Assessment

<b>A levels</b>	3 Examinations for A Level Maths at the end of Year 13. Timed papers 2 hours each. 4 examinations for A Level Further Maths at the end of Year 13. Timed papers 1½ hours each. No coursework
-----------------	--

### What can you expect during lessons?

Teacher-led discussion of concepts to develop understanding, independent study, whole class academic sessions and examination question practice.

### What opportunities will studying Further Mathematics provide?

This course complements all subjects (although it occupies two option choices at A level). It will test you beyond the normal A Level course and, as such, is a great asset if you are thinking of applying for highly competitive university places.

### What have students that have studied Further Mathematics A Level at Wallington Girls gone on to study at university?

The majority of our Further Mathematicians choose to study courses with a heavy mathematical content at university. Some of our students last year continued with Mathematics at degree level. Other courses included Economics, Physics, Computer Science, Mechanical Engineering and Aerospace Engineering.

## Music

Examination Board: Edexcel

*Please note that Music A Level lessons for the last few years have run at Nonsuch, with transport provided for WHSG students.*

### Why Music?

A level Music gives students the opportunity to develop skills to a high level while developing creativity and musicality. It is highly regarded by universities as an academic subject and provides an excellent balance with other academic subjects in terms of the practical elements of the course and the wide range of skills needed. The A level in Music will prepare students for a University degree and/or a career as a professional musician or composer.

### Subject Entry Requirements

A grade 7 in GCSE Music and minimum of Grade 6 standard on an instrument or voice.

### Course Content

<b>Unit 1</b>	<b>Performing (30%)</b> – a public performance in the form of a recital with a minimum performance time of 8 minutes. Performances to be recorded after March 1 <sup>st</sup> in the year of certification. It is recommended that the minimum entry level for performance is Grade 6 or equivalent.
<b>Unit 2</b>	<b>Composing (30%)</b> – two compositions. One is a free brief and the other is a brief set by Edexcel. The total time across both compositions must be a minimum of 6 minutes.
<b>Unit 3</b>	<b>Appraising (40%)</b> – Application of knowledge through 6 areas of study each with 3 set works. The areas of study are: Vocal Music, Instrumental Music, Music for Film, Popular Music and Jazz, Fusions, New Directions.  <b>Assessment overview</b>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One written paper of 2 hours, with a total of 100 marks.</li> <li>• One audio CD with the extracts to accompany questions on the paper will be provided per student.</li> <li>• This paper comprises two sections: A and B. Section A: Areas of study and dictation (50 marks)</li> <li>• Three questions related to the set works (audio and skeleton score provided).</li> <li>• One short melody/rhythm completion exercise.</li> <li>Section B: Extended response</li> <li>• Two essay questions – essay one (20 marks) and essay two (30 marks)</li> </ul>
--	--

### Assessment

All units are externally assessed.

### What can you expect during lessons?

Practical activities using Sibelius, workshops, group work, question and answer sessions, student-led seminar work, and teacher/student-led discussions

### What opportunities will studying Music provide?

Music therapist, musician, private music teacher, sound technician, broadcasting/film/video, event manager, radio producer.

### What have students that have studied Music A Level at Wallington Girls gone on to study at university?

Students who have studied music have gone on to a range of different degree choices, from choosing to continue with Music at degree level to other courses such as Biological Sciences or Sociology. The creativity and skills you will learn in Music, such as attention to detail and methodical thinking are transferable to a wide range of degree choices and career options. Music complements all other A Level choices.

## Philosophy

Examination Board: AQA

### Why Philosophy?

To study Philosophy is to grapple with some of life's most challenging and fundamental questions. How should I live? What is knowledge? Does God exist? Who am I? Resultantly Philosophy is not for the faint-hearted. It is an exhilarating, perplexing and sometimes infuriating adventure that attacks and undermines many of our most cherished beliefs. The only guide being the cold and merciless application of reason and logic. In this respect Philosophy is not so much a subject to be studied but a way of life that commits its followers to the noble pursuit of truth, no matter what it is or where it is found. This may sound disturbing but as the great Socrates once said 'an unexamined life is not worth living'. More prosaic reasons for studying Philosophy include:

- Mastering reason and logic so that you can build and destroy arguments with intimidating success
- Being introduced to some of the greatest minds and influential ideas of human civilization
- Learning how to write with supreme clarity and compelling persuasiveness
- Becoming an expert in debate and discussion
- Having something to talk about with anyone (including your parents/carers)

**NB: This is an A-Level in Philosophy not Religious Studies. We do not study religion, at all.**

**Subject Entry Requirements:** A grade 7 in either Religious Studies or English Literature.

<b>A level</b>	Paper 1 (3 hours)	<b>Epistemology (Theory of Knowledge)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is Knowledge?</li> <li>• Perception as a source of knowledge</li> <li>• Reason as a source of knowledge</li> </ul> <b>Moral Philosophy</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Utilitarianism</li> <li>• Kantian Deontological Ethics</li> <li>• Aristotelian Virtue Ethics</li> <li>• Applied Ethics</li> <li>• Meta-Ethics</li> </ul>
----------------	-------------------	--

	Paper 2 (3 hours)	<b>Metaphysics of God</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The concept and nature of 'God'</li> <li>• Arguments relating to the existence of God</li> <li>• Religious Language</li> </ul> <b>Metaphysics of Mind</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What do we mean by 'mind'?</li> <li>• Dualist Theories</li> <li>• Physicalist Theories</li> <li>• Functionalism</li> </ul>
<b>Assessment level</b>	Paper 1: 50% Paper 2: 50%	

### What can you expect during lessons?

Discussion, podcasts, debate, tests, direct instruction, reading, Cornell notes, essay writing, modelling best practice, celebrating success, free recall, high standards and a passionate commitment to all that is good, noble and true.

### What opportunities will studying Philosophy provide?

Students will have the opportunity to a) examine, debate and discuss their own ideas in an open, respectful but exacting forum b) engage with some of the most influential and insightful minds in human history (e.g. Plato, Aristotle, Descartes, Kant, Leibniz, Singer, Mrs. Bochenski, etc.) c) develop their ability to think and write clearly, logically and convincingly, and d) study an A-level which will make you a fantastic student of any university subject, be it a science, humanity, art, etc. There is a strong correlation between students who study Philosophy and those who excel in university interviews, owing to the analytical and critical thinking skills developed throughout the course.

### What have students that have studied Philosophy A Level at Wallington Girls gone on to study at university?

Anything and everything! Medicine, Law, Politics, Economics, Geography, History, Physics, French, German, Latin, Art, Biology, Natural Sciences, Theatre, Drama, English Literature, etc. Philosophy is a powerful subject that compliments and works well with both the Arts and Sciences. Which is probably why, in terms of intellectual interests, our students are always diverse.

# Physical Education

Examination Board: AQA

## Why Physical Education?

Physical Education is for those of you that love being active, embrace the competitive/performance nature of sport and enjoy learning about the psychological, biological and contemporary issues surrounding elite sports performance in the world today. From analysis of elite performer's physiology, training programmes and rehabilitation to understanding the way their competitive mind approaches sport and the influences of media, this course offers an exceptional grounding for those going on to study psychology, sport science, physiotherapy, biology and many other medical related careers.

## Subject Entry Requirements

No specific entry grades required, however students wishing to join this course will need to provide evidence of their sporting competence (1 sport) or dance ability or coaching experience/ability. This evidence will be assessed and successful applicants will be confirmed on the course based on the practical evidence provided.

## Course Content

A level	Paper 1	<b>Factors affecting participation in physical activity and sport (35%)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Section A: Applied anatomy and physiology – Cardiovascular, Respiratory, Neuromuscular and Musculoskeletal Systems</li><li>- Section B: Skill acquisition – Stages and theories of learning</li><li>- Section C: Sport and society – Pre and Post Industrial Sport, Social impacts on participation</li></ul>
	Paper 2	<b>Factors affecting optimal performance in physical activity and sport (35%)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Section A: Exercise physiology and biomechanics – Energy Systems, Injury prevention and rehabilitation, diet/nutrition, training, forces, momentum, motion, resistance, fluid mechanics</li><li>- Section B: Sport psychology – confidence, leadership, cognitive stress, personality, aggression and arousal</li><li>- Section C: Sport and society and technology in sport – Ethics, drugs, sport and the law, commercialisation, technology and media</li></ul>
	Practical	<b>Non-examined Assessment (30%) – Practical</b> <p>Students will participate in a range of sports in lessons that will support their practical grades as well as developing their theoretical understanding.</p> <p>Students will select <b>one</b> sport, dance or coaching role in which to be assessed in for their final moderation (30%). A written coursework analysing students strength and weaknesses in this activity will also be submitted.</p>

## What can you expect during lessons?

Practical, group work, discussion, independent study.

## What opportunities will studying Physical Education provide?

Complements Biology, Physics, Psychology, History and English. A wide range of skills will be developed including coaching, leading, presenting, synthesis of information. This course would lead to a wide range of careers including those in the sporting field as well as science fields. Students will continue with practical lessons and will attend outdoor activity visits.

## What have students that have studied Physical Education A Level at Wallington Girls gone on to study at university?

Sports Medicine - Bath	Sport Rehabilitation & Exercise - Nottingham
Spots Science – University of Surrey	Sport, physical education & coaching - Birmingham
Nursing – Kings College	Physiotherapy - Manchester
Paramedic Sciences – St George's	Criminology & Sociology - Kent
Physiotherapy - Cardiff	English - York
Sport, Physical Education & Coaching - Birmingham	Biochemistry - Birmingham
Sport & Exercise Science - Brunel	Mathematics - Loughborough
Sociology - Sheffield	Psychology - Bristol
Mathematics - Bath	

# Physics

Examination Board: Edexcel

## Why Physics?

Physics is the study of the fundamental mechanisms of the Universe, making it a fascinating subject for those with an enquiring mind who want to understand how things work. Intellectual rigor abounds, with many problem solving opportunities provided. Studying Physics will also help to develop your logical thinking and mathematical skills, as well as giving you the chance to carry out experiments to investigate the world around you.

Current A-level students have the following to say about why studying Physics at A-level is a good choice:

- *Physics opens many opportunities for you in the future, especially if you are a girl!*
- *Although some parts can be hard to understand at first, it's really satisfying when it clicks.*
- *It is the only true science, as Rutherford concisely put it! How much more enlightening can you get than the study of the workings of the world?*
- *It's the best subject to support A-level Maths.*
- *Teachers offer support and help which is really important. Everything is very organised and structured.*

## Subject Entry Requirements

A grade 7 in GCSE Physics and a grade 7 in GCSE Mathematics. **Course Content**

<b>Topic</b>	1	Working as a physicist	7	Electric and magnetic fields
	2	Mechanics	8	Nuclear and particle physics
	3	Electrical circuits	9	Thermodynamics
	4	Materials	10	Space
	5	Waves and particle nature of light	11	Nuclear radiation
	6	Further mechanics	12	Gravitational fields
			13	Oscillations
<b>Assessment</b>	<p>This is a linear course, meaning all content is examined at the end in three papers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Paper 1 covers topics 1,2,3,6,7 &amp; 8 and is 1hour 45 mins (90 marks)</li><li>• Paper 2 covers topics 1,4,5,9,10,11, 12 &amp; 13 and is 1 hour 35 min (90 marks)</li><li>• Paper 3 covers all topics (with a focus on practical skills) and is 2 hrs 30 min (120 marks)</li></ul> <p><i>As part of your physics A-level qualifications, you will also work towards the Practical Endorsement (CPAC). This is an internally-assessed pass/fail qualification that will appear on your certificate as a separately reported result, alongside the overall grade for your A-level.</i></p>			

## What can you expect during lessons?

- Calculations & problem-solving
- Experimental investigation & practical work
- A mixture of independent and group work.

There is an emphasis on working methodically and especially learning from mistakes to improve in the future.

## What opportunities will studying Physics provide?

Physics and Mathematics (and Further Mathematics) is the most common pairing, as the two subjects are heavily interlinked; indeed, we recommend that all students studying physics at A-level also study Mathematics. The use of the scientific method makes the combination of Physics with Chemistry or Biology popular too. Physicists are often gifted musicians, making this a more common choice than you might think! Physics also works well with Philosophy, due to the logical rigor both subjects demand; this has led to many universities offering joint honours in the subjects.

Physics at A-level is vital for degrees in Physics and Engineering and highly desirable for Mathematics, Natural Sciences, Economics and Medicine. The analytical skills developed are much sought after by employers as they are applicable to a wide range of careers.

## What have students that have studied Physics A Level at Wallington Girls gone on to study at university?

In recent years, the majority of students who have taken Physics at A-level have gone onto degrees in Engineering, including civil, mechatronic, aerospace, design, biomedical and mechanical specialisms. A number of students have carried onto study pure Physics, Astrophysics and Physics & Philosophy, whilst others have gone down more mathematical routes. However, every year there are some students who take something completely unrelated, such as languages or an arts subject, which we are always very pleased to see – the analytical skills that you acquire over the course will help in any degree you choose!

# Psychology

Examination Board: AQA

## Why Psychology?

Psychology is the scientific study of human behavior and experience. Psychologists use the same methods Psychologists use the same methods as other scientists to understand the world around them. You will analyse many interesting psychological experiments to evaluate their credibility and reach conclusions that may be applied to improving society. Throughout the course you will develop skills that will enable you to become amateur psychologists and understand how to carry out your own research. The AS and A-level courses are particularly engaging because so many of the topics apply to your everyday life.

## Subject Entry Requirements

Minimum of a grade 7 in GCSE Psychology or a GCSE Science (if GCSE Psychology not taken) - preferably Biology **and** a grade 7 in GCSE English Language or Literature.

## Course Content

<b>A level</b>	Introductory topics in Psychology  Psychology in context  Issues and options in Psychology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Social influence</li><li>• Memory</li><li>• Attachment</li><li>• Psychopathology</li><li>• Approaches in Psychology</li><li>• Biopsychology</li><li>• Research methods</li><li>• Issues and debates in Psychology</li><li>• Cognition and development</li><li>• Schizophrenia</li><li>• Forensic Psychology</li></ul>
<b>Assessment</b>	Paper 1: Introductory topics in Psychology <b>2 hours</b> Paper 2: Psychology in context <b>2 hours</b> Paper 3: Issues and options in Psychology <b>2 hours</b>	

## What can you expect during lessons?

Lessons generally take a discursive approach with importance being placed on the value of explanation and research. This is achieved through group work as well as whole class discussion. To understand how to conduct research using human samples, lessons also involve participating in psychological experiments.

## What opportunities will studying Psychology provide?

Psychology complements subjects such as Biology, English and History. Careers in counselling, education, forensics, law, business, research and occupational health will open up as well as careers for various forms of Psychology.

## What have students that have studied Psychology A Level at Wallington Girls gone on to study at university?

Psychology, Biology with Psychology, Psychology with Criminology, Physiotherapy, Law, English Literature, Medicine, Optometry, Pharmacy, Pharmaceutical and Chemical Science, Biomedical science, Neuroscience, Civil and Infrastructure Engineering, Economics, Accounting and Finance, Finance and Accounting with placement year, Wealth management UBS apprenticeship, Business Management, Adult Nursing, Dramatic Art/Acting, Primary Education with an English Specialism.

# Sociology

Examination Board: AQA

### Why Sociology?

Social scientists combine an interest in people and society with the desire to study them in an objective and systematic way. Sociologists are interested to find out about the different cultures and traditions. Modern sociology focuses on the study of human beings and their patterns of behaviour in groups within society such as the family, work, education, religion, social class, nationality etc. Sociology can focus on a social interaction as small scale as the way two people behave when they meet for the first time, and as large scale as national crime trends and statistics. It is a fascinating, enjoyable and fast-moving subject area that also offers students an excellent introduction to how to design and carry out social research.

### Subject Entry Requirements

*No additional requirements*

### Course Content

<b>A level</b>	Education with theory and methods  Topics in Sociology Crime and deviance with theory and methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Education &amp; Methods in context</li><li>• Theory and methods</li><li>• Family and households</li><li>• Crime and deviance</li><li>• Beliefs in society</li></ul>
<b>Assessment</b>	Paper 1: Education with theory and methods 2 hrs Paper 2: Topics in Sociology 2 hrs Paper 3: Crime and deviance with theory and methods 2 hrs	

### What can you expect during lessons?

Lessons are generally based on a mixture of reading and discussion, with time allowed for one to one support, group work and whole class discussion and debate. Students are expected to undertake their own reading and note-taking to consolidate learning.

### What opportunities will studying Sociology provide?

Sociology students often go on to careers in public facing professions such as law, social work, education, the civil service, marketing and research. Students will be invited to attend the annual Hodder Education Criminology conference in year 13 and to visit The Church of Scientology as part of the Beliefs in society topic.

### What have students that have studied Sociology A Level at Wallington Girls gone on to study at university?

Sociology, Politics and Sociology, Geography, Law, Primary School Teaching, Criminology, Journalism, International Business, Sport and Exercise Sciences

## Spanish

Examination Board: AQA

### Why Spanish?

Studying a modern language is extremely well-respected in higher education as well as by employers. The course not only allows you to further your linguistic knowledge, but also foster the ability to express yourself in a clear, logical and well-reasoned way on a wide variety of topics at an academic level. Languages combine well with almost any other range of subjects. Speaking Spanish will allow you to communicate with over 350 million people in the world.

### Subject Entry Requirements

A grade 7 in GCSE Spanish.

### Course Content

<b>A-level</b>	<u>Aspects of Hispanic society</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Modern and traditional values</li><li>• Cyberspace</li><li>• Equal rights</li></ul> <u>Artistic culture in the Hispanic world</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Modern day idols</li><li>• Spanish regional identity</li><li>• Cultural heritage or cultural landscape</li></ul> <u>Multiculturalism in Hispanic Society</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Immigration</li><li>• Racism</li></ul>
----------------	--

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Integration</li> </ul> <u>Aspects of political life in the Hispanic world</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Today's youth, tomorrow's citizens</li> <li>• Monarchies, republics and dictatorships</li> <li>• Popular movements</li> </ul> <u>Cultural Topic</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students study 1 book and 1 film</li> </ul> <u>Individual Research Topic</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students conduct individual research on a subject of personal interest, relating to Spain (for oral only)</li> </ul> <u>Grammar</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students study the grammatical system and structure of Spanish</li> </ul>	
<b>Assessment</b>	Unit 1	Listening, reading, translation and writing assessment – 2 hrs 30 minutes – 50% of A Level.
	Unit 2	Writing assessment on the book and film studied – 2 hrs – 20% of A Level
	Unit 3	Speaking Assessment – approximately 20 minutes (including 5 minutes preparation time) – 30% of A Level

#### **What can you expect during lessons?**

Reading and listening to authentic materials in class, written tasks, discussion in the target language, debate and conversation, regular tutorial sessions with the Spanish Language Assistant, online materials

#### **What opportunities will studying Spanish provide?**

Studying Spanish will provide you with the opportunity to develop your interpersonal, reasoning, communication and presentation skills. Students of Spanish are often praised and appreciated by both universities and employers for their highly developed communication skills. Employers relish the opportunity to take on linguists and there is currently a gap in the workplace for speakers of other languages.

**What have students that have studied Spanish A Level at Wallington Girls gone on to study at university?** Students studying A Level Spanish have gone onto study a wide variety of subjects at university including Medicine, Veterinary Science, International Relations & Economics, Interior Design, a Law apprenticeship, Modern Foreign Languages and Spanish and History.