

Montsaye Academy



SUBJECT DETAILS 2018

**GCE A LEVEL
COURSES**

ART

For whom is this course suitable?

The aim of the course is to encourage independence and individuality. The course offers students the opportunity to discover how to express their own ideas and styles in a creative, imaginative and personal way. Students will experiment with abstract, figurative and symbolic approaches to visual communication using a whole range of approaches including drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture, photography and computer manipulation (Photoshop). Individuals will also develop their ability to analyse and evaluate their own work and the artwork of others.

Students should have a GCSE Grade 5 or above in Art & Design, although students with a portfolio of work will be considered on an individual basis.

What will I learn on this course?

Component 1—Portfolio (60%)

The emphasis of this component will be on the development of understanding and skills using an appropriate range of materials, processes and techniques.

Each student must include in his or her portfolio:

- A selection of thoughtfully presented work, demonstrating a variety of skills and techniques
- At least one extended collection of work or project, based on an idea, concept, theme or issue. This should demonstrate the student's ability to sustain work from an initial starting point to a realisation. It should include evidence of their ability to research and develop ideas and link their work in a meaningful way to relevant critical/contextual materials.

Component 2—Externally set assignment (40%)

Separate question papers will be provided for each title. These will consist of a choice of five questions to be used as starting points. Students are required to select one.

Preparatory period – from 1 February

Following receipt of the paper students should consider the starting points and select one. Preparatory work should be presented in any suitable format, such as mounted sheets, design sheets, sketchbooks, workbooks, journals etc.

Supervised time – 15 hours

Following the preparatory period, students must complete 15 hours of unaided, supervised time.

They must produce a finished outcome or a series of related finished outcomes, informed by their preparatory work.

Students will go on a variety of gallery and city visits to record experiences and ideas. There will be the opportunity to visit Paris, Barcelona or Berlin for 3 days in February / March.

What could I do at the end of my course?

Studying Art will open up many opportunities, including Animation (stop motion, cartoons, digital, games), Architecture, Art Therapy, Ceramics, Conservation/Restoration, Fashion & Textiles, Film & Television, Fine Art (public art, painting, sculpture etc.), Gallery/Museum Curator, Graphic Designer, Glass Artist, Illustration, Photography and Set Design.

BIOLOGY

For whom is this course suitable?

Students studying Biology at advanced level will have achieved at least grade 6/6 in Combined Science. In addition, a grade 5 or higher in maths GCSE is required. Students studying single sciences will have achieved at least a grade 6 in Biology, and one other science, as well as a grade 5 in maths.

What will I learn on this course?

Biology is divided into topics, each covering different key concepts of biology. Teaching of practical skills is integrated with the theoretical topics and they are assessed through the written papers and the Practical Endorsement, which supports the development of practical skills

The content is split into six teaching modules. Modules 1 to 6, combined with the Practical Endorsement, constitute the full A Level. The modules can be summarised as:

Module 1: Development of Practical Skills in Biology – this module underpins the whole of the specification, and covers the practical skills that students should develop throughout the course. The practical skills in this module will be assessed within written examinations. Successful completion of the required practical assessments will be separately certificated with the Practical Endorsement.

Module 2: Foundations in Biology – covering key concepts required throughout the remaining modules.

Module 3: Exchange and Transport

Module 4: Biodiversity, Evolution and Disease

Module 5: Communication, Homeostasis and Energy

Module 6: Genetics, Evolution and Ecosystems

At A Level:

Paper 1 assesses content from Modules 1, 2, 3 and 5.

Paper 2 assesses content from Modules 1, 2, 4 and 6.

Paper 3 assesses content from Modules 1 to 6.

What could I do at the end of my course?

Biology has scientific, social and environmental application and relevance and therefore complements a wide range of academic and vocational subjects. Biology provides an excellent base from which to develop key skills in communication, application of number and ICT.

Biology A Level qualifications allow for progression to higher education in a wide range of courses and provide a range of skills appropriate for employment in many different fields. Biology is the preferred A level of study for Physiotherapy.

BUSINESS STUDIES

For whom is the course suitable?

Students require a minimum of six grades 5's at GCSE, of which four will be from examined subjects. It is not a requirement that you should have studied Business at GCSE. However, if you did study Business GCSE, you will need to have achieved a 5 grade or above. Some topics are developments of work done at GCSE but others are new. It is more important that you have an interest in Business and how it is organised, operates, plans, and makes decisions. 'A' Level Business mixes well with a broad range of other 'A' Levels and vocational courses.

What will I learn on this course?

Students will study the following topics:

- Unit One: Operating in a local business environment (33.3% of A Level)
- Unit Two: The UK business environment (33.3% of A Level)
- Unit Three: The global business environment (33.3% of A Level)

Students should be made aware that this course is assessed entirely on end of year examinations. There is no coursework.

What could I do at the end of my course?

- Direct entry into employment in a business setting.
- Further learning opportunities in employment.
- Degrees in Business, Accountancy and Economics.

CHEMISTRY

For whom is the course suitable?

Students studying Chemistry at advanced level will have achieved at least grade 6/6 in combined science. In addition, a grade 5 or higher in maths GCSE is required. Students studying single sciences will have achieved at least a grade 6 in Chemistry, and one other science, as well as a grade 5 in maths.

What will I learn on this course?

The course is divided into topics, each covering different key concepts of chemistry. Teaching of practical skills is integrated with the theoretical topics and they are assessed through written papers and the Practical Endorsement.

Course Overview

Chemistry A is split into six modules. Modules 1 to 6, combined with the Practical Endorsement, constitute the full A Level. The modules can be summarised as:

Module 1: Development of practical skills – this module underpins the whole of the specification, and covers the practical skills that students should develop throughout the course. The practical skills in this module can be assessed within written examinations and the Practical Endorsement.

Module 2: Foundations in chemistry covering concepts required throughout the remaining modules. The foundation work builds upon the GCSE syllabus.

Module 3: Periodic table & energy

Module 4: Core organic chemistry

Module 5: Physical chemistry and transition elements

Module 6: Organic chemistry and analysis

At A Level:

Paper 1 assesses the content from Modules 1, 2, 3 and 5

Paper 2 assesses the content from Modules 1, 2, 4 and 6

Paper 3 assesses the content from Modules 1 to 6.

What could I do at the end of my course?

Follow degree courses including chemistry, medicine, veterinary science, biological sciences, environmental science, pharmacy, chemical engineering, forensic science, biochemistry, geology, law, accounting, business, management, sport science, brewery, architecture, conservation management, archaeology, food science and physiotherapy.

If you choose not to follow a degree route you could use your A level in, for example; quality control, textiles, food production, management, accountancy, medical services, building, police, armed forces, engineering and logistics.

DANCE

For whom is this course suitable?

If you are interested in performing and studying the theory of Dance and are keen to develop and improve Dance technique and choreography, then you will enjoy this course.

What will I learn on this course?

In A-Level Dance you will study the following two components:

1. **Performance and Choreography** (50% of A-level)

This is the practical element of A-level Dance. You will be assessed performing a solo which is linked to a specified practitioner, performance in a quartet and a group choreography.

2. **Critical Engagement** (50% of A-level)

This is the written element of A-level Dance. You will be assessed on your knowledge, understanding and critical appreciation of two set works. You will be assessed by completing a written paper.

What could I do at the end of my course?

After studying A-Level Dance you will be well placed for Dance courses at University or Dance colleges. A-Level Dance can be used to apply for a range of courses at University, including; Dance studies, Musical Theatre Performance, Performing arts, Dance Science or Dance Education.

Alongside Dance qualifications, this course supports many transferable skills such as team working, communication and problem solving which can support all university and job applications.

Entry Requirements

Students studying A Level Dance will have achieved at least a grade 5 in GCSE Dance, or will have taken part in dance-related activities outside school, and will be prepared to take part in an audition process.

DESIGN and TECHNOLOGY – PRODUCT DESIGN

For whom is the course suitable?

Students who enjoy practical and/or creative work and have followed a design-based course at GCSE Level, achieving at least a grade 5 in Product Design Food, Textiles, Electronics or have BTEC Engineering at either a Merit or Distinction grade. Design Technology is often taken in combination with Art, Maths and Physics

What will I learn on this course?

During the two-year course you will study a range of materials, you will develop a technical understanding of how products function and how they are made to appropriately support the design and manufacture of your own design solutions. You will learn about wider design principles and the effect of design on users and the world we live in.

You will identify market needs and opportunities for new products, initiate and develop design solutions, and make and test prototypes/products. You will develop your subject knowledge, including how a product can be developed through the stages of prototyping, realisation and commercial manufacture.

You will develop a critical mind through enquiry and problem solving, exploration, creation and evaluation of iterative designs. The course encourages freedom in approaches towards designing and making so as not to limit the possibilities of project work or the materials and processes being used.

The examination content requires you to apply mathematical and scientific knowledge, understanding and skills. This content reflects the importance of Design and Technology as a pivotal STEM subject.

The A level consists of two units of work:

A non-examined '**Iterative Design Project**' is a substantial design, make and evaluate project centred on the iterative processes of explore, create and evaluate. It is **worth 50%** of the A Level qualification. You will be required to identify a design opportunity or problem from a context of your own choice, and create a chronological portfolio supported by real-time evidence of your project development. Innovative approaches will be required resulting in a final prototype that can be tested against the user and the market.

The **Principles examination paper** is **worth 25%** of the A Level qualification and assesses analysis of existing products, technical knowledge and understanding of materials, product functionality, manufacturing processes and techniques and allows you to demonstrate your understanding of design thinking and wider social, moral and environmental issues that impact on the design and manufacturing industries. The paper is **1 hour 30 minutes** long.

The '**Unseen Challenge**' is **worth 25%** of the A Level qualification and focuses on the application of your knowledge, understanding and skills of designing and manufacturing prototypes and products through a set design task, then reflecting on your design solution in relation to wider factors and other theoretical knowledge. The paper is **2 hour 30 minutes** long.

What could I do at the end of my course?

Higher Education courses and ultimately careers in:

Design, Art and Design, Furniture Design, Engineering, Industrial Design, Graphic Design, Design Engineering, Fashion Industry (as a Buyer, Designer, Merchandiser, Visual Merchandiser or Technologist).

ENGLISH LITERATURE

For whom is the course suitable?

Students studying English Literature will need to have gained a grade 5 in both English Language and English Literature.

All students will need to enjoy reading novels, plays, poetry and non-fiction and must understand that success in this qualification is largely dependent on independent wider reading as well as the study of nine set texts.

English Literature may be successfully combined with any number of other subjects: complementary areas include History, Sociology or Modern Languages, but this subject can prove a valuable addition to any combination of other subjects as it helps to develop candidates' skills in the essential areas of reading for meaning and analytical thinking.

What will I learn on this course?

A Level English Literature

The course consists of two examinations:

Paper 1: Love through the Ages

This unit comprises of the study of three texts: one poetry, one prose and one Shakespeare play and preparation for a response to unseen poetry. The unit is assessed through an open book examination of 3 hours and is worth 40 % of the final A-level qualification.

Paper 2: Texts in shared contexts

This unit comprises of the study of World War 1 Literature. Students will study three texts: one prose, one poetry and one drama. The unit is assessed in an open book examination of 2 ½ hours and is worth 40% of the final A-level qualification.

Independent critical study: Texts across time

This unit is the comparative study of two texts. The unit is assessed through one extended essay of 2,500 words and is worth 20% of the A-level qualification.

In general, students will study drama in performance, explore the way interpretations of texts change over time, acquire the skills necessary to deal with unseen texts and learn to make connections between works of literature. The course will also help to develop candidates' abilities as informed, independent readers, ensuring that they come to their own understanding of what a text means, but are open-minded about other people's interpretations.

What could I do at the end of my course?

A qualification in English Literature is an excellent grounding for any number of careers, particularly those that require the ability to communicate clearly, in speech or writing, and those that require the ability to analyse. Those interested in journalism, media, law or the civil service would benefit from studying English Literature.

GEOGRAPHY

For whom is the course suitable?

Geography will appeal to you if you are interested in:

- Investigating the features of the natural environment around you and understanding the processes that form these features.
- Investigating the processes that shape and change human environments.
- Investigating the interactions between these natural and human processes.
- Using fieldwork techniques and research methods as part of your investigations.
- Getting out into a range of different physical and human environments during your study.
- Gaining a broad based, academically rigorous qualification which includes elements of the sciences and the humanities.

We follow the WJEC Eduqas A Level Geography specification.

What will I learn on this course?

In the course you will:

- Study themes such as: Glaciated Landscapes, Changing Places, Global Cycles (Water and Carbon), Global Migration, Global Governance of the Oceans, Tectonic Hazards, Ecosystems, and Economic Growth and Challenge.
- Use a range of fieldwork techniques and research methods.
- Participate in a residential fieldtrip to Snowdonia and in local fieldwork.
- Learn how the world is contested and the dilemmas facing us in the future.
- Learn and use a variety of transferable skills including collecting, analysing and interpreting data, communicating findings in different ways, and identifying and developing links between different parts of the subject.
- Produce your own independent investigation which is worth 20% of the course (between 3000-4000 words long) based on fieldwork and research.

What could I do at the end of my course?

The subject knowledge, subject skills and transferable skills you will learn and the interests you will develop can lead you into a wide variety of employment opportunities and university courses.

Taken with sciences like Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry or Biology, Geography supports applications for almost any science-based university course such as geography, geology, environmental sciences, oceanography, engineering, maths, chemistry, physics or biology.

Taken with humanities like English, Sociology, History or Business, Geography supports an equally wide range of university courses such as business, law, politics, philosophy, history, and English.

HISTORY

For whom is this course suitable?

You will benefit from studying History if you enjoy:

- Investigation and discovery
- Debating, and like putting forward well-argued cases
- Analysing pieces of evidence
- Investigating the development of the modern world

What will I learn from this course?

During the course you will learn about Communist Russia, Mao's China, World War One, and 19th Century Britain. In each topic you will learn about:

- The significance of events, individuals, issues and society;
- How and why these societies have changed over time;
- How the past has been interpreted and represented.

How will I be assessed on this course?

During the course you will be assessed using both coursework and examination. The weighting for each method of assessment is 20% coursework and 80% examination.

What could I do at the end of my course?

History is about structuring a convincing argument and supporting it with evidence. It is widely regarded as a very useful qualification for most higher education courses and career choices. These are just some of the jobs an A Level History qualification is relevant for:

- Lawyer
- Journalist
- Newspaper Editor
- Marketing Manager
- Town Planner
- Accountant
- Politician
- Film maker
- Teacher

MATHEMATICS

For whom is the course suitable?

Students studying mathematics at advanced level will have achieved at least grade 6 in mathematics GCSE. A willingness to work hard is also expected and you will be expected to be proactive in seeking help if or when problems arise.

What will I learn on this course?

This course is a two-year linear course.

There are few areas of human activity which have not been touched by Mathematics. The ability to analyse, plan, predict and generally make sense of numbers and space has underpinned our technological advances. Furthermore, doing mathematics is fun; strange but true.

The course is comprised of a combination of Pure Mathematics and Applied Mathematics. Pure Mathematics expands on the algebra and trigonometry studies at GCSE. Applied Mathematics is Statistics and Mechanics.

What could I do at the end of my course?

A level Mathematics is highly regarded by employers and universities as evidence of the ability to think logically, analytically and precisely. It is obviously necessary for degrees in Mathematics or Engineering, but is also useful for Accountancy, Finance and most Science and Computing courses and highly sought after for Law degrees. The Statistics module will be very beneficial for anyone going on to study subjects such as Geography, Sociology, Biology or Psychology, which involve analysing data.

National research suggests that students who have successfully studied Mathematics at A level regularly receive significantly higher salaries than their peers. Mathematics is useful, pays well and is interesting... What more could you want?

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

For whom is this course suitable?

Students studying A Level PE will have achieved at least a grade 5 in GCSE PE, or a Merit in NCFE PE if they have taken either of those courses during Key Stage 4. If you have an interest in the theory of sport, are keen to learn more of the wider issues related to sport and physical activity then you will enjoy the course. You must also have an interest in playing sport, ideally taking part on a regular basis.

What will I learn on this course?

In the theory part of the course you will study the following three components:

- **Component 1: Physiological Factors Affecting Performance. 2 hr exam. 30% of the final grade.**
- **Component 2: Psychological Factors Affecting Performance. 1 hr exam. 20% of the final grade.**
- **Component 3: Socio Cultural & Contemporary Issues. 1 hr exam. 20% of the final grade.**

This is an overview of the three theory components.

1. Physiological factors includes the following areas: Bones, Muscles & Joints; Biomechanics; Levers; Cardiovascular System; Respiratory System; Exercise Physiology; Injury Prevention.
2. Psychological factors includes the following areas: Movement Skills; Information Processing; Memory; Motivation; Arousal; Personality.
3. Socio-Cultural & Contemporary factors includes the following areas: Olympic Games; Violence in Sport; Sponsorship & the Media; Funding of Physical Activity; Commercialisation; Amateurism & Professionalism.

Overall, the theory part of the course is worth 70% of the final A Level grade.

- **Component 4: Performance within Physical Education. 30%.**

In the practical aspect of the course students will be assessed in their strongest practical activity (from the DfE published list). You will perform in the internal moderation which will be at the end of February / beginning of March in Year 13. If you do an activity that cannot be observed in school, e.g. skiing then you have to submit video evidence of your performance at this time. It is strongly recommended that you are training and performing in your sport on a regular basis during both Year 12 & 13.

In addition to your practical performance you must conduct an Evaluation & Analysis of Performance task. This is where you comment on strengths and weaknesses of a sporting performance.

The practical part of the course is worth 30% of the final A Level Grade (15% performance- 15% Evaluation & Analysis of Performance).

What could I do at the end of my course?

After studying A Level Physical Education, you will be well placed to obtain employment in the sport and leisure sector. Alternatively, you could apply for a place at University. A-Level PE can be used to apply for a range of courses at university, including sport related such as Sports Science/Sports Coaching/PE Teaching. In the past students have also applied to courses such as Law, Accountancy and Physiotherapy using PE A Level.

For any further information please speak to Mr Wing or Mrs Hodges.

PHOTOGRAPHY

For whom is this course suitable?

Photography at A Level is essentially an Art and Design based course. It will build on the skills, knowledge and understanding acquired at GCSE. Therefore, though not essential, an Art GCSE or experience and an interest in Art outside school, would be advantageous.

What will I learn on this course?

- Photography — lens and light-based media includes works in film, video, digital imaging and light-sensitive materials.
- Sometimes, techniques and processes are used to convey messages and create works related to other disciplines, such as web-based animations, photographic images in printed journals, light projections within theatrical or architectural spaces.
- Work in photography — lens and light-based media should form a means of personal enquiry and expression involving the selection and manipulation of images.
- Students must employ creative approaches which go beyond mere observation and recording.

A Level (2 years)

Component 1—Personal Investigation (60%)

Part 1: practical work

From personal starting points

Students submit:

- supporting studies
- personal outcomes

Part 2: personal study

Students submit a piece of continuous prose of a minimum of 1000 words

Component 2—Externally set assignment (40%)

Externally-set, broad-based theme released to teachers and students on 1 February

Sustained focus period of 15-hours controlled assessment in which students create final response(s) to the theme

Students submit:

- preparatory studies
- personal outcome(s)

Study visits

Students will go on a variety of gallery and city visits to record experiences and ideas. There will be the opportunity to visit Paris, Barcelona or Berlin for 3 days in February / March.

What could I do at the end of my course?

Students will be able to access higher education opportunities in the following areas: Animation (stop motion, cartoons, digital, games), Marine and Natural History Photography, Conservation/Restoration, Fashion, Film & Television, Photo Journalism, Fine Art, Gallery/Museum Curator, Photography, Set Design and Web Design.

PHYSICS

For whom is this course suitable?

Students studying Physics at advanced level will have achieved at least grades 6/6 in Combined Science. In addition, a grade 5 or higher in maths GCSE is required. Students studying single sciences will have achieved at least a grade 6 in Physics, and one other science, as well as a grade 5 in maths.

What will I learn on this course?

The course covers different key concepts of physics and as students progress through the course, they'll build on their knowledge of the laws of physics, applying their understanding to areas from sub-atomic particles to the entire universe. Practical skills are integrated with the theoretical topics and assessed both through written papers and the Practical Endorsement.

Course Overview

The content is split into six teaching modules. Modules 1 to 6, combined with the Practical Endorsement, constitute the full A Level. The modules can be summarised as:

Module 1: Development of practical skills.

Module 2: Foundations of physics.

Module 3: Forces and motion.

Module 4: Electrons, waves, and photons.

Module 5: Newtonian world and astrophysics.

Module 6: Particles and medical physics.

At A Level:

Paper 1 assesses content from Modules 1, 2, 3 and 5.

Paper 2 assesses content from Modules 1, 2, 4 and 6.

Paper 3 assesses content from Modules 1 to 6.

What could I do at the end of my course?

Physics complements:

- Chemistry and Biology for scientific and medical careers.
- Mathematics and IT for computing and engineering careers.
- The arts and humanities as contrasting subjects.

The physics course offers excellent opportunities for the development of ICT and application of number skills, alongside communication, team work and problem solving skills.

PSYCHOLOGY

Introduction

Psychology is both an applied and academic field that studies the human mind and behavior. Research in psychology seeks to understand and explain how we think, act and feel. Psychology evolved out of both philosophy and biology. Discussions of these two subjects date as far back as the early Greek thinkers including Aristotle and Socrates. The word psychology is derived from the Greek word *psyche*, meaning 'soul' or 'mind.'

Psychologists attempt to understand the role of mental functions in individual and social behavior, while also exploring the physiological and neurobiological processes that underlie certain cognitive (mental) functions and behaviours.

For whom is the course suitable?

Students who are interested in;

- The way people behave and why?
- A subject that complements both arts and sciences
- A 'cutting edge' subject where new research and information is emerging all the time
- A subject that helps to develop the ability to weigh up evidence and come to a conclusion.

There is no need to have any knowledge of psychology before commencing the course. Most students quickly get used to the way the subject operates and the language we use.

Entry Requirements

Students studying psychology will have achieved at least a grade 4 in Maths, and will have a minimum of three GCSE's at grade 6 or above.

What will I learn on this course?

The course covers topics that include psychological ideas about:

- Memory: What do we remember, how? Why do we forget? How reliable is eye witness testimony used by the police?
- Attachment: What happens if you do not make/or have a break in the relationship between you and your mother? What are the effects of a child being brought up in a children's home as opposed to a family?
- Research Methods: How do psychologists go about their research?
- Social influence: Conformity and obedience. Why do the majority of people tend to do what they are told? How can we engineer it so a person follows orders that go against their conscience or do something that they don't really want to do?

Students can also choose to study three of the following: Relationships, Gender, Cognition and Development, Schizophrenia, Eating Behaviour, Stress, Aggression, Forensic Psychology or Addiction.

What could I do at the end of my course?

Anything! Psychology can be applied to a very wide range of professions. Psychology is about understanding people; many psychology graduates go into teaching, social work or nursing in terms of the 'people centred' nature of the course. However, many more turn to management, marketing, advertising and journalism. Further applications for psychology include mental health treatment, performance enhancement, self-help, ergonomics and many other areas affecting health and daily life.

SOCIOLOGY

Introduction

Sociology is the study of society. It is a social science which uses various research methods to develop a body of knowledge about human social activity. Sociology studies different groups and institutions within society, it looks at how they interact and affect one another. Sociology is the one social science which embraces the whole range of human activities and this makes it a very wide field of study.

For whom is the course suitable?

This course will appeal to students who have any interest in human behaviour and how societies work. The topics studied make reference to the experience of everyday life and as such many students find they are studying aspects which they have an awareness of already.

There is no need to have any knowledge of sociology before commencing the course. Most students quickly get used to the way the subject operates and the language we use.

Entry requirements

To be selected for the course students must have gained at least six '5' or above grades.

What will I learn on this course?

There are four main areas of study:

- Family and Households
- Education
- The Media
- Crime and Deviance

In each area we investigate the process and relationships which operate within it as well as investigating its place in society.

In addition to this we look at sociological theory and research methods.

What could I do at the end of my course?

Sociology is about studying the society we all live in. It is therefore a very useful subject whatever your plans after your sixth form studies. Most areas of work will accept Sociology as a good traditional subject that is relevant to the outside world.

- Health and social welfare work
- Teaching
- Media and journalism
- Business/personnel
- Police/legal work
- Politics
- Prison service
- Tourism

SUBJECT DETAILS

VOCATIONAL COURSES

BTEC Level 3 in Health and Social Care

What is a BTEC?

BTECs are vocational qualifications designed to give students the skills they need to either move on to higher education or go straight into employment. BTECs are work-related qualifications suitable for a wide range of students. They're built to accommodate the needs of employers. They provide a practical, real-world approach to learning without sacrificing any of the essential subject theory. They can be taken alongside, or in place of A Levels.

Who is this course for?

Those who have an interest in the social care setting.

Those who may want to go straight into work rather than higher education.

Those who prefer coursework to exams.

What is it like?

There is some teaching but there is also a lot of independent research and written work in terms of regular assignments.

What skills are required?

The ability to write clearly and accurately is important, as well as being an independent learner. You need perseverance and the ability to take feedback.

How will it be assessed?

Passing this course is equivalent to achieving one A level.

PASS = E grade at A-level

MERIT = C grade at A-level

DISTINCTION = A grade at A-level

What will I learn?

Topics include the following Mandatory Units:

- Human Lifespan and Development
- Working in Health and Social Care
- Meeting Individual Care and Support Needs

There will also be one Optional Unit from the following list: Psychological Perspectives, Sociological Perspectives, Supporting Individuals with Additional Needs, or Psychological Disorders and their Care.

What will I gain from this course?

A vocational qualification that can lead to further study at college, university or a career in the social care setting. The BTEC provides a route to employment into the many diverse areas of Health and Social Care. With the merit and distinction grading, the qualifications may be used in applications to appropriate courses at university.

Cambridge Technical Introductory Diploma in IT/Cambridge Technical Diploma in IT

For whom is the course suitable

This qualification is for learners who prefer to study IT in a context that allows them to learn and be assessed in ways that are practical and relevant to the IT sector.

This qualification is not just about being able to use computers. Employers need people who are able to help them develop their systems or the systems for their customers, use IT as a tool to analyse data and develop applications. Therefore, this qualification is designed to give learners a range of specialist knowledge and transferable skills in the context of applied IT.

What will I learn on this course?

The course is offered as a single or double A Level equivalent following the Application Developer pathway. Learners will study the following two mandatory units; *Fundamentals of IT* and *Global information*. These units provide learners with an insight into the IT sector, as they investigate the pace of technological change, IT infrastructure, and the flow of information on a global scale, as well as the important legal and security considerations.

Learners on the **Cambridge Technical Introductory Diploma in IT** will take five units, made up of three mandatory and two optional units. They will study the following two mandatory units; Fundamentals of IT and Global information. These units provide learners with an insight into the IT sector, as they investigate the pace of technological change, IT infrastructure, and the flow of information on a global scale, as well as the important legal and security considerations.

Learners will also take the designated mandatory unit for the Application Developer pathway - Application design. Learners will explore application design and develop a prototype to meet a user requirement. The two optional units will draw on the knowledge acquired from the mandatory units and will further enhance learners' knowledge, skills and understanding with respect to the development of specifications and the designing, building or testing of applications.

Learners on the **Cambridge Technical Diploma in IT** will take eleven units and will study the following three mandatory units; Fundamentals of IT, Global information and Cyber security. The additional unit reflects an important development in the sector around information security, and requires learners to consider how data should be protected and how the IT sector should respond to emerging threats such as cyber terrorism.

In addition, learners are required to complete eight further units including the designated mandatory unit for this pathway - Application design, plus units involving web and program development.

What could I do at the end of my course?

Learners could progress onto a Level 4 apprenticeship such as Network Engineer or Software Developer or into employment in the IT sector in areas such as technical support, digital technologies, application development or data analysis. The course carries the same number of UCAS points as A Level courses and is a route into higher education (HE).

OCR Technical Extended Certificate Level 3 in Sport

For whom is the course suitable?

Students with a broad interest in sport and students who may be considering “sport and recreation” as a potential career. It is not necessary to have studied GCSE PE/NCFE Health & Fitness, but some of the work may be familiar to those who have.

What will I learn on this course?

In order to complete this qualification, you will study six units. Units 1,2 and 3 are compulsory together with a further three units selected from 5,8,18 and 19. Unit 1 and 3 are assessed as a written examination, and all other units are completed through internally assessed work. This qualification is the equivalent of a single A Level course.

Unit 1 Body Systems and the Effects of Physical Activity. In this unit you will gain an understanding of the structures and functions of the key body systems, how these support and impact performance in sport and physical activity, and the effects that physical activity, training and lifestyle can have on them.

Unit 2 Sports Coaching and Activity Leadership. This unit will give you an understanding behind the theory of what makes good sports coaches and activity leaders and methods that can be employed to improve the performance of sports participants. You will explore the roles and responsibilities of coaches and leaders and how these differ from each other and be involved in delivering and teaching sport and physical activity. The main part of the unit is related to you developing the skills and understanding necessary to effectively plan and deliver a series of sports or activity sessions, reflecting on your own practise and using this feedback to improve your performance as a sports coach or activity leader.

Unit 3 Sports Organisation and Development. In this unit you will gain an understanding of the organisations involved in sport in the UK, their roles and responsibilities and how they work together. You will also gain an understanding of sports development including the organisations involved, who sports development is targeted at and why, how sports development is carried out and how the success of sports development initiatives can be measured.

Unit 5 Performance Analysis in Sport and Exercise. This unit will give you the skills and knowledge required to carry out performance profiling and analysis, and deliver feedback to the performers in a manner that is suitable for them.

Unit 8 Organisation of Sports Events. This unit is designed for you to develop skills in planning, promoting and delivering a sports event; with a focus primarily on your individual role, as well as working as part of a team and reflecting on your input and future personal development. This unit will enable you to establish transferable skills which can be used within sport and active leisure, as well as within the fitness industry. It will also enhance skills such as team work, organisation and safeguarding awareness.

Unit 18 Practical Skills in Sport and Physical Activities. This unit gives you the opportunity to participate in a number of different sports and outdoor activities which allows you to experience, first-hand, situations that participants you may later be coaching or leading will come across. In this unit you will learn how to apply skills, tactics, techniques and knowledge in individual sports, team sports and outdoor activities which will allow you to participate effectively, safely and enjoyably.

Unit 19 Sport and Exercise Psychology. In this unit you will learn different motivations that people have for participating in sport and physical activity and how performance can be managed through an understanding of attribution theory, stress and group dynamics. You will also learn the impacts that participation in sport and physical activity can have on a person’s mental health and wellbeing, whether an elite performer or a member of the general public.

What could I do at the end of my course?

The OCR Technical course provides a background for entry to employment in the sport and recreation sector. With merit and distinction grading, the qualification may be used in conjunction with A-levels for applications to appropriate courses at university, including sport science and other related courses. In recent years, students studying vocational Sport courses at Montsaye have gained places at a variety of universities, including Sheffield Hallam, Nottingham Trent and Derby to study Sport and a range of other courses.

Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Performing Arts: Musical Theatre

Equivalent to one A Level.

Who is this course for?

The Extended Certificate is for individuals who are interested in learning about the performing arts sector alongside other fields of study, with a view to progressing to a wide range of higher education courses, not necessarily in performing arts. It is designed to be taken as part of a programme of study that includes other appropriate BTEC Nationals or A Levels (Level 3 courses).

What will you study and how will you be assessed?

You will study the following units:

1. Investigating Practitioners' Work
2. Developing Skills and Techniques for live Performance
3. Group Performance Workshop
4. Musical Theatre Techniques

The four units listed above will cover all three disciplines (Dance, Drama & Music), but with the option to specialise in one discipline for assessment. Assessment is a combination of internal and external verification. There is no final written exam.

Possible grades: PASS, MERIT, DISTINCTION, DISTINCTION*

Is this course for me?

This course is challenging, adventurous and explores many different conventions, styles, practitioners and live professional productions. It is a practical and engaging course and one that will require lots of energy and commitment from you. It will change the way you look at yourself and the world around you. As well as the general A Level requirements at Montsaye, it is expected that you will have some experience of performing in one or more of the three disciplines and ideally a GCSE in either Dance, Drama or Music (although this is not essential).