# **#GrowingLeaders**



# **Sixth Form**



# Welcome to John Colet Sixth Form

I am delighted that you are seeking to join the John Colet School Sixth Form, which is a key part of our school. You will be considering the Sixth Form for the purposes of studying Level 3 qualifications, the next step from GCSEs, but you will also be joining the senior students of the school of whom we expect much in terms of being role models and making a contribution to the school over and above programmes of study.

We offer a range of A Level and BTEC subjects that will allow you to consider the widest possible options after your two years of study, whether that be university, higher level apprenticeships, gap year or the world of work. You will study with experienced teachers in groups smaller than you will find in any other local schools or colleges. This allows you to work more closely with your peers, but also with teachers who have great experience in ensuring progress across a range of courses.

One of our key mantras is to 'grow leaders' and our enrichment programme and leadership opportunities will enhance your portfolio of experience whilst allowing you to ensure your personal statement for university application or CV for work presents you as standing out from the crowd in an increasingly competitive market.

I am sure you will take the time to speak with current Sixth Form students about their experience of study and enrichment and I look forward to your application to join us next academic year.



Dee Fanchi, Head of Sixth Form
Assistant Headteacher



### **LEADERSHIP**

The future is changing and it is vital that we embed transferable skills within our students. Through our development of their leadership we hope to foster professionalism, responsibility, empathy and perseverance.

All students in our Sixth Form take part in our community service programme where activities are selected for both their enrichment of the wider school community but also for the skills they develop within our students. These activities include:

- Subject ambassadors, where students select a subject of their choice and work with lower years in their lessons to support their learning.
- Mentoring younger students, developing our Sixth Formers' ability to empathise with, organise and coach other students.
- Prefects who represent the school at a number of events.

All our students assist the school at the school Open Evening for prospective Year 7s in October and attend 'Into the Sixth' in November for Year 11s. These events mark their transition as young adults in our school, working alongside staff to share what they are proud of.

We have a strong head student team, where the students face a selection process. The students represent the school at a number of public and internal events and work with the wider school community to improve standards and experiences. This develops leadership skills and is something all Year 12 students should aspire to.

### **Enrichment**

We raise aspirations through organising a trip to a university in order for students to experience what it is like to study in higher education. We have a designated information area for sixth form students to provide regularly updated opportunities for work experience and courses to supplement their learning with us. Biannually, students can take part in a World Challenge Expedition; recently we have travelled to Zambia, Nepal, Morocco, Tanzania and an expedition to Cambodia is planned for 2026. A number of our students complete the Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award. Our Year 12 students undertake a range of activities each week as part of an enrichment programme of recreational sport, employability skills and online learning (MOOC) and a food safety, nutrition and practical cooking course.

We welcome a wide variety of speakers as part of our Future Focus initiative which aims to show students the breadth of careers and professions available to them by connecting them with employers. A multitude of events in the Sixth Form calendar provide immersive experiences into the world of work and look to broaden horizons and raise aspirations. Year 12 students are expected to undertake a meaningful 5 day work experience placement in the Summer term.

We feel it is imperative to help develop the whole person so that our students are prepared to take an active role in society and make a positive contribution to their community, challenging and developing every part of our students.







# **Expectations**

Sixth Formers enjoy a greater degree of freedom than in KS4: their responsibilities and achievements are rewarded by allowing them to wear their own clothes which adhere to our dress code, use of the Sixth Form Centre (SFC), freedom to leave site for break and lunch as well as access to a hot drinks machine.

Students are assigned a number of sessions of Supervised Study each fortnight; they must attend the SFC to complete their independent work. They are able to nominate 'flexi' periods (home study) which can be increased or revoked based on performance.

Students are expected to contribute consistently to a community service and are expected to attend events and activities provided for them including guest speaker sessions, careers interviews and enrichment.

All students are registered each morning and attend assembly regularly. This secure framework provides the best environment to support progress. Students will sign in and out using their electronic ID cards when they arrive on or leave the school site. Students will register with the Assistant to the Head of Sixth Form for supervised study periods and at the start of a flexi study.

Each course sets a preparatory task over the summer or at enrolment which helps build a solid foundation for students embarking on new courses. This work is compulsory and will be collected and assessed by teachers towards the end of September and forms part of the early assessment of students.

# **Next Steps Guidance**

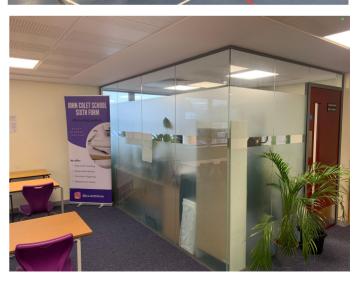
Our in-school Careers Leader offers excellent support to students by giving independent information, advice, guidance and practical help with planning for their next steps, whatever they might be. Information is provided in regards to a variety of routes and opportunities given to students to consider these different paths. Students will meet both in small groups and 1:1 for these sessions.

# Sixth Form students receive additional support via:

- Personal, Social, Health education (through our Cit-Com programme)
- ☐ UCAS application process
- ☐ Mock university/employment interview support
- ☐ CV writing lessons and seminars on using LinkedIn
- Assistance with higher education research / application via Unifrog and UCAS
- ☐ Apprenticeship sessions and advice on assessment centres
- ☐ Visiting speakers from a range of organisations and backgrounds
- ☐ Results day support and guidance
- Parent Consultation Evenings
- ☐ Meeting with trained counsellors in school
- ☐ University, Higher Education and employer visits







# **Curriculum Offer**

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# **English Literature**

Students will study a minimum of eight texts including novels (at least one pre-1900), plays (including Shakespeare) and poetry across the two years. Study of texts within the chosen literary and cultural genres in the examined topic areas is enhanced by the study of critical theory in the non exam assessment.

The 'Aspects of tragedy' topic explores the texts featuring the flawed hero or heroine who who both suffers and causes suffering to others and an interplay between what might be seen as villains and victims.

Texts studied in 'Elements of political and social protest writing' have issues of power and powerlessness at their core, with political and social protest issues central to each text's structure.

Students will develop their understanding in the study of language, form and structure and a sense of the significance and influence of the contexts in which texts are written.

#### Assessment

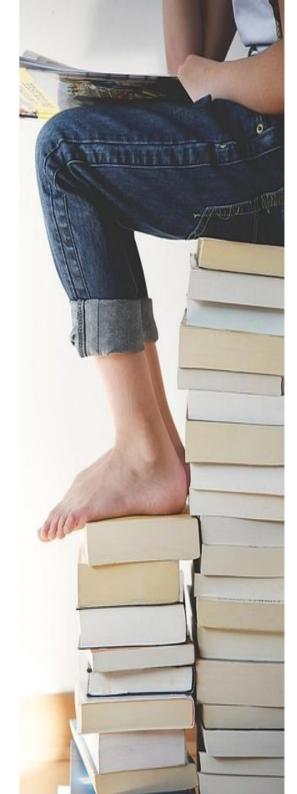
Paper 1: Aspects of Tragedy (closed book) 40% Paper 2: Elements of Political and Social Protest writing (open book) 40%

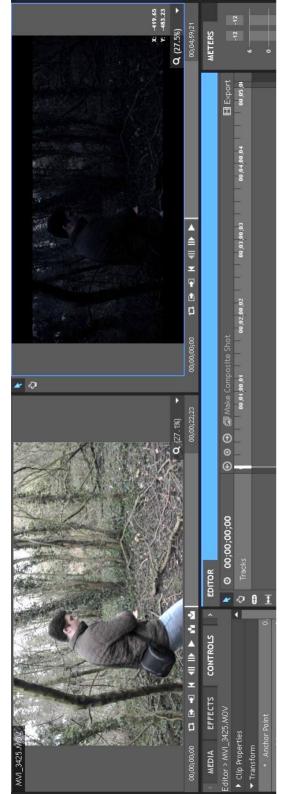
Coursework: Two essays 20%

**Exam Board: AQA** 

# **Additional entry requirements:**

GCSE English Literature Grade 5 GCSE English Language Grade 5





# **Media Studies**

This course enables students to view, evaluate and analyse a variety of media products. They develop practical skills spanning a range of media forms and develop research, problemsolving skills and creativity. The course builds their capacity for independent research while gaining a deeper appreciation and understanding of the role media plays in day to day life.

Students enjoy the subject for its contemporary relevance and the hands-on practical work involved in producing a video, webpage or magazine for their coursework. They gain skills in planning, developing production sills and evaluating their completed work against their intentions.

### **Assessment**

Paper 1: Media products, industries and audiences (35%)

Paper 2: Media forms and products in depth (35%)

Coursework: Cross-media production task (35%)

# **Exam Board: Eduqas**

# **Additional entry requirements:**

GCSE English Literature Grade 5 GCSE English Language Grade 5

# **Geography**

The geography syllabus contains a mix of human and physical geography. Physical geography focuses on the contrasting systems of hot deserts, coasts and glacial landscapes and the types of environments created. It offers the opportunity to exercise and develop geographical skills including observation, measurement and geospatial mapping skills, together with data manipulation and statistical skills including those associated with and arising from fieldwork.

In human geography the focus is on globalisation – the economic, political and social changes associated with technological developments and other driving forces which have been a key feature of global economy and society in recent decades. Students contemplate many complex dimensions of contemporary world affairs and their own place in and perspective on them.

Students take part in a 5 day residential fieldwork activity to complete an individual investigation which includes data collected in the field.

#### **Assessment**

Paper 1: Physical Geography (40%) Paper 2: Human Geography (40%)

Coursework: 3,000-5,000 word assignment

(20%)

**Exam Board: AQA** 

# Additional entry requirements:

GCSE Geography Grade 5



# **History**

Students complete a breadth study and a depth study. The breadth study is Tsarist and Communist Russia from 1855-1964. In year 12 students will study the government of Russia in the late 19th and early 20th century and the events leading to the Russian Revolution of 1917. In year 13 they will look at the development of the communist state with a focus on the leaderships of Lenin and Stalin.

The depth study is the Making of Modern Britain, 1951 - 2007. In year 12 students will consider the social, political and economic impact of WW2 while in year 13 the focus is on the development of modern Britain between 1979 and 2007, considering the impact of Thatcherism and the era of New Labour.

Students also complete an investigative coursework essay on the abolition of slavery in the British Empire.

#### Assessment

Paper 1: Breadth Study: Tsarist and Communist Russia, 1855–1964 (40%)

Paper 2: Depth Study: The Making of Modern

Britain, 1951–2007 (40%) Coursework: Essay (20%).

# Exam board: AQA

# **Additional entry requirements:**

GCSE History Grade 5 is required GCSE English Grade 5

# **Sociology**

Sociology is the study of people in social groups. It attempts to see through and look beyond what seems obvious, by considering a range of factors which influence our behaviour in groups, such as culture, globalisation, socialisation, gender, ethnicity and social class.

Students study key concepts and themes of sociology to critically analyse contemporary society. These include the education system, families and households, the mass media and crime and deviance.

Throughout the course students will be exposed to a range of theories and methods that sociologists use in their work. They will develop the skills to use many of these in their analysis and identify how sociological research can affect government policy.

#### Assessment

Paper 1: Education with theory and methods (33%)

Paper 2: Topics in sociology, Families and

Households; the Media (33%)

Paper 2: Crime and Deviance with Theory and

Methods. (33%)

# Exam board: AQA

# Additional entry requirements:

GCSE English Grade 5

# **Politics**

There are three broad areas of study for this qualification; the government and politics of the UK; the government and politics of the USA; and political ideas

The political ideas to be studied have relevance to both of the systems of government and politics. The study of the four ideologies will enhance the students' knowledge and understanding of politics, political debate and political issues in both the UK and the USA.

Students will develop a critical awareness of the changing nature of politics and the relationships between political ideas, political institutions and political processes. They will learn to comprehend and interpret political information and construct and communicate arguments and explanations with relevance, clarity and coherence.

### Assessment

Paper 1: Government and politics of the UK

2 hours 33%

Paper 2: The government and politics of the USA &

comparative politics

2 hours 33%

Paper 3: Political ideas

2 hours 33%

### **Exam board: AQA**

### **Additional entry requirements:**

GCSE English Grade 5



# **Mathematics**

Mathematics at A Level builds on content that students will have met at GCSE, but also introduces them to new mathematical concepts produced by some of the greatest minds of the last millennium. It is interesting, challenging and extremely rewarding. It opens up so many doors for future jobs and other opportunities in life.

Students will study Pure Mathematics including algebra, geometry and trigonometry. They will also study Mechanics including Vectors, Kinematics, Forces and Newton's laws. Statistics includes statistical sampling, data presentation and interpretation, probability and statistical hypothesis testing.

#### Assessment

Paper 1 - Pure Mathematics 1 (33%)

Paper 2 - Pure Mathematics 2 & Mechanics (33%)

Paper 3 - Pure Mathematics & Statistics (33%)

### **Exam Board: AQA**

# Additional entry requirements:

GCSE Mathematics Grade 6

# **Further Mathematics**

A-level Further Mathematics is designed to broaden and deepen the mathematical knowledge and skills developed when studying A-level Mathematics. It may be studied alongside or after taking A-level Mathematics and provides a stimulating experience for those who enjoy the subject

The Further Pure units build upon the techniques in Algebra, Geometry, Trigonometry and Calculus developed from the Pure Core units as well as introducing topics such as complex numbers, matrices, proof, hyperbolic functions, polar coordinates and differential equations. Mathematical applications make up the remainder of the qualification.

### Assessment

All students are entered into AS Further Mathematics after Year 1 of studying. If they choose to continue with A Level Further Mathematics there will be three exams of 2 hours in the June series.

# Exam board: AQA

## **Additional entry requirements:**

Students will need a minimum Grade 7 GCSE Mathematics and be studying A level Mathematics

# **Computer Science**

The A Level Computer Science qualification helps students understand the core academic principles of computer science. Classroom learning is transferred into creating real-world systems through the creation of an independent programming project. Students will develop their technical understanding and theoretical comprehension of computer science, and their ability to analyse and solve problems using computational thinking.

For their programming project, students will be required to analysed, design, develop, test, evaluate and document a program written in a suitable programming language.

### **Assessment**

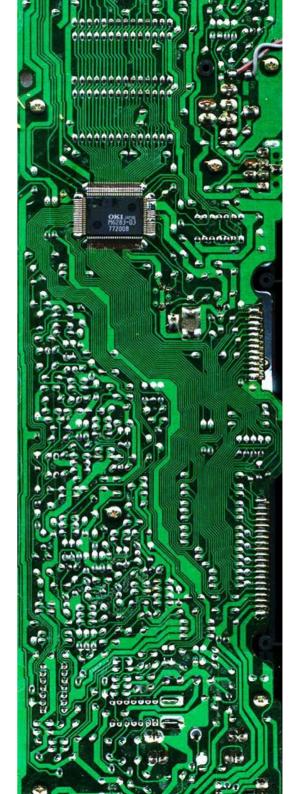
Paper 1: Computer Systems (40%)

Paper 2: Algorithms and programming (40%) Controlled Assessment: Programming Project (20%)

# **Exam Board: AQA**

## Additional entry requirements:

GCSE Computer Science Grade 5 and/or Information Technologies Merit 2 GCSE Mathematics Grade 5



# **Biology**

Biology A-level will give you the skills to make connections and associations with all living things around you. Biology literally means the study of life and if that's not important, what is?

The depth and breadth of Biology enables students to develop their capacity for problem solving, following the scientific model and showing that they can understand concepts at a complex level.

Biology, like all sciences, is a practical subject. Throughout the course students will carry out practical activities including using microscopes to see cell division, dissection of animal or plant systems, aseptic technique to study microbial growth, investigating activity within cells, investigating, observing animal behaviours and looking at distributions of species in the environment.

#### **Assessment**

Paper 1 (2 hours, 35% of A level) Paper 2 (2 hours, 35% of A level) Paper 3 (2 hours, 30% of A level, this exam includes 1 essay question)

### **Exam Board: AQA**

# Additional entry requirements:

Triple science: GCSE Biology Grade 6 and GCSE 6 and a GCSE 5 in the other two disciplines OR Combined science: GCSE 6 6 GCSE Mathematics Grade 5

GCSE English Grade 5

# Chemistry

A-level Chemistry attempts to answer the big question 'what is the world made of' and its the search for this answer that makes this subject so fascinating. From investigating how one substance can be changed drastically into another, to researching a new wonder drug to save millions of lives, the opportunities that chemistry provides are endless.

The depth and breadth of Chemistry enables you to develop your capacity for problem solving, applying mathematical skills to practical situations, following the scientific model and showing that you can understand concepts at a complex level.

Topics include: Physical Chemistry – atoms, structure and bonding, energetics and acid/bases; Inorganic Chemistry – groups and elements on the periodic table; Organic Chemistry – alkanes and alkenes, functional groups, analysis and synthesis

### **Assessment**

Paper 1 (2 hours, 35% of A level) Paper 2 (2 hours, 35% of A level) Paper 3 (2 hours, 30% of A level)

### Exam Board: AQA

## Additional entry requirements:

Triple science GCSE Grade 6 in Chemistry and GCSE 6 and a GCSE 5 in the other two disciplines OR Combined science GCSE 6 6 GCSE Mathematics Grade 5 GCSE English Grade 5

# **Physics**

Physics is the study of almost everything! The study of the Universe, of planets, of buildings, of vehicles, of mobile phones and integrated circuits and of subatomic particles. Physicists explore the fundamental nature of almost everything we know of. They probe the furthest reaches of the Earth to study the smallest pieces of matter. Join them to enter a world deep beneath the surface of normal human experience.

The first year course includes a revision of the basics covered at GCSE and then further develops knowledge and understanding of principles such as the properties of matter, waves, electricity, nuclear physics and mechanics. The second year course has a much greater emphasis on Mathematical formulae and their applications to physical principles.

### **Assessment**

Paper 1 (2 hours, 34% of A level) Paper 2 (2 hours, 34% of A level) Paper 3 (2 hours, 32% of A level)

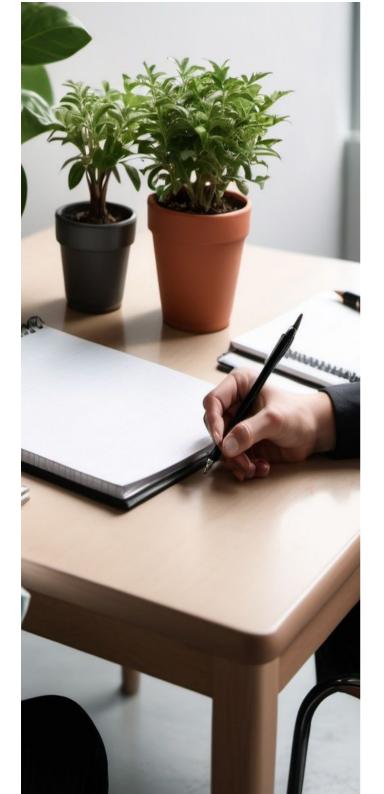
### **Exam Board: AQA**

# Additional entry requirements:

Triple science: GCSE Grade 6 in Physics and GCSE 6 and GCSE 5 in the other two disciplines OR Combined science: GCSE 66 GCSE Mathematics Grade 5

GCSE English Grade 5





# **Psychology**

This subject is classed as a science. It's a great choice for anyone interested in understanding other people and why we behave the way we do. If you're good at arguing your point, interested in science and maths then it should be a good choice for you.

Students study Introductory Topics in Psychology which include social influence, attachment, psychopathology and memory. They also look at Psychology in Context, which includes Approaches in Psychology, evaluating different ways of examining human and animal behaviour. A third topic is Issues and Debates in Psychology which includes the ever popular forensic psychology.

Over the two years of study, students will have the opportunity to design and conduct informal research both in and outside the classroom, using a variety of methods.

#### Assessment

Paper 1: Introductory Topics in Psychology (33%)

Paper 2: Psychology in Context (33%)

Paper 3: issues and debates in psychology (33%)

Exam board: AQA

# **Additional entry requirements**

GCSE Science Grade 55 GCSE English Grade 5 GCSE Mathematics Grade 5

# **Business Studies**

During the course you will study business in a variety of contexts. You will look at why businesses exist and the related nature between businesses in different sectors from the extraction of raw materials in the primary sector to the final service provided in the tertiary sector. You will also use theories and models to analyse the different types of leadership and management and how these two key topics differ.

You will also investigate the impact that management has on the decisions taken by the business both at a functional and strategic level. Finally, you will analyse the internal and external factors that influence decision making within businesses and use data to measure business performance.

You will also take part in many extra-curricular activities to put your new-found Business acumen to the test such as Young Enterprise.

#### Assessment

Paper 1: Business 1: written exam (33%) Paper 2: Business 2: written exam (33%) Paper 3: Business 3: written exam (33%)

**Exam Board: AQA** 

# **Additional entry requirements:**

GCSE Business Studies Grade 5 GCSE Mathematics Grade 5 GCSE English Grade 5

# **Financial Studies (DipFS)**

This exciting offer is still to be finalised, but it will be a fully certified Level 3 qualification. It is fully recognised by UCAS and universities.

The content serves as a strong grounding for undergraduate study within finance and business-related disciplines, with many students going on to study accounting, business, finance and banking.

In the first year, students complete the Certificate in Financial studies learning to make informed financial decisions through the understanding of the risks and challenges involved in personal finance and the importance of financial planning. In the second year students progress to the full Diploma in Financial Studies.

#### Assessment

Year 1:

2 x multiple choice exams

2 x written exams

Year 2:

2 x Multiple choice exams

2 x written exams

**Exam Board: Agored Cymru** 

# Additional entry requirements:

GCSE Mathematics Grade 5

# **BTEC Sport**

This qualification is desirable if you want to go to university to study any sports related course such as Coach Development, Sports Journalism, Sports Psychology or Sports Science. Careers that would benefit from having BTEC Sport are PE teaching, Sport massage or Sports Rehabilitation, Leisure Centre Management and Sports Coaching.

### **Course Overview**

Unit 1: Anatomy and Physiology

Unit 2: Fitness Training and Programming for

Health, Sport and Well-being

Unit 3: Professional Development in the Sports

Industry

Unit 6: Sports Psychology

### **Assessment**

Units 1 & 2 are assessed externally

Unit 1: Anatomy and Physiology - written examination 1.5 hours,

Unit 2: Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Well-being - A task is set and marked by Pearson and completed under supervised conditions.

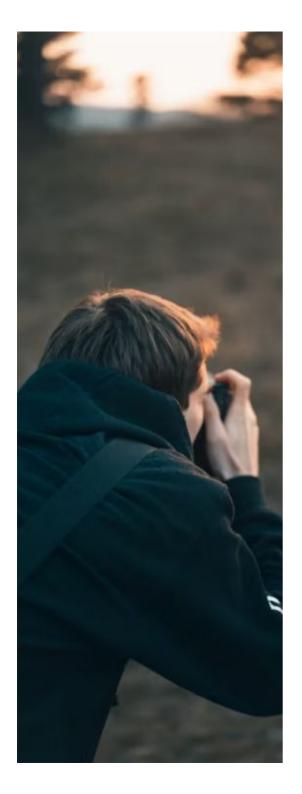
Units 3 & 6 are assessed internally.

### **Exam board: Pearson**

# **Additional entry requirements:**

GCSE Science Grade 5-4 GCSE English Grade 5





# Art & Design - Fine Art / Photography

The Fine Art syllabus allows students to vary approaches and materials that they work with during the two year course. Students choose from: drawing, painting, mixed media, sculpture, printmaking and art based photography, ceramics and glass. They study artists and designers together with contextual sources that relate and respond to their own pathway.

The Photography syllabus allows students to explore working in film based photography, digital photography and film and video, developing their skills in creating images. Students develop skills in camera operation, using a range of materials, using images to evoke a response, production and presentation.

#### **Assessment**

Component 01: Personal Investigation -

Portfolio (60%)

Component 02: Externally Set Task - 15 hour

examination (40%)

**Exam Board: Edexcel** 

# Additional entry requirements:

GCSE Art or Photography Grade 5

# **Drama**

The course enhances skills in communication, negotiation and development of ideas, rehearsing and refining students' work, understanding and interpreting texts as well as adding your own ideas to them. A strong understanding of theatre styles is essential as they are needed for both devising and scripted performances. You will also attend theatre trips, evaluating them and stating how they have inspired you and d your ideas.

### **Assessment**

The course is made up of 3 units:

Component 1:

A performance which is an interpretation of a script in the style of a chosen practitioner and a creative log

Component 2:

One devised performance, one scripted performance and a process and evaluation log completed within one week of the final performance.

Component 3: (exam)

Section A and B include two questions based on two scripts from different time eras and how they could be interpreted and performed Section C is based on The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time and questions will be asked about acting, rehearsing, directing and designing a specific extract.

## **Exam Board: Eduqas (WJEC)**

# **Additional entry requirements:**

If GCSE Drama was studied, a Grade 5 is required. GCSE English Grade 5



# **Product Design**

This qualification is for students looking for a future in a world driven by creativity, design and innovation. Students will be exposed to a range of designing and making techniques, building knowledge and skills through classroom, extracurricular and trip based experiences.

Students will study a range of topics through practical and design based activities with embedded theory. Topics include materials, process, digital technology, factors influencing design, information modelling and advancing making processes.

### **Assessment**

Written Paper: Principles of Design and Technology, 2.5 hours, 50% NEA Task: Individual Design and Make Project,

50%

### **Exam board: Edexcel**

# **Additional entry requirements:**

GCSE Design and Technology - Grade 5 or GCSE Art - Grade 5 GCSE English - Grade 5 GCSE Maths - Grade 5



# **EPQ**

EPQ will be offered as an additional Level 3 qualification for students wishing to take an additional qualification in Year 12. Students will be timetabled for one lesson per week with an EPQ tutor/mentor whilst expected to carry out the majority of the project as independent work; approximately 90 hours across the academic year. Many students use this as an opportunity to continue with an area of interest they wish to pursue or to create a cross-curricular project to support their A Level study.

Students are required, with appropriate supervision, to:

- choose an area of interest
- draft a title and aims of the project
- plan, research and carry out the project
- the outcome can be a design, performance, report, dissertation or artefact
- deliver a presentation to a non-specialist audience and respond to questions
- provide evidence of all stages of project development and production for assessment.

EPQ is well respected by universities. The availability of the EPQ for students is a priority and therefore it does not clash with any option block enabling any students who wishes to access the qualification to do so.

It is not possible to take EPQ and CSLA.

# **CSLA - Level 3**

We offer level 3 CSLA (Community Sports Leaders Award) to all students for an additional cost which provides students with leadership skills and experience. They are timetabled with a CSLA tutor for 2 hours a fortnight. Students do not have to take BTEC sport to participate. It is not possible to take EPQ and CSLA.



# **Application Process 2024/2025**

### Thursday 14 November 2024 - 'Into the Sixth Evening'

This exciting and popular event provides prospective students and their families the opportunity to hear details of our different courses and decide whether their skills and aspirations match our course offer. All courses will be represented by students currently studying in our Sixth Form who are able to offer real insights to potential John Colet Sixth Formers. Wider information about life in the Sixth Form is shared during an informative talk.

### Tuesday 26 November 2024

Initial expressions of interest are to be completed online by internal Year 11 students by <u>Friday 22 November 2024</u>. Students select three courses (in preference order) and 1 reserve.

### **Late December 2024**

Option blocks and entry requirements will be released to students and formal applications will be invited to be submitted online. Students select 3 courses in preference order.

## Friday 14 February 2025

Students are asked to make formal, initial choices online by <u>Friday 14 February 2025</u>. **This is an important deadline to secure your conditional offer.** 

#### Mid March 2025

Successful applicants receive a letter offering them a conditional place subject to meeting the entry requirements. External students will be invited to an online interview in April.

### Thursday 3 and Friday 4 July 2025

Applicants holding a conditional offer will be invited to our 'Offer Holder Days' to experience a series of transition activities and the opportunity to attend taster lessons. **It is important that offer holders attend as important information will be shared.** 

### Thursday 21 August 2025

On GCSE results day internal and external offer holders will be able to enrol and confirm their place online. A senior leader will be available to discuss choices in person if needed.

### Friday 22 August 2025

External and internal students who are not offer holders, are invited to come in and meet with a member of the senior team to discuss their results and choices and to enrol.

### September 2025

Students start their courses. Course changes may be considered on a case by case basis during the first 3 weeks of the Autumn term. Students are invited to add EPQ or Further Maths, as well as the Level 3 Community Sports Leaders Award.

#### October 2025

All students will complete assessments in each subject. This assessment is a measure of independent learning and work ethic which are key to success at A Level. Students who do not pass the majority of assessments will have a highly structured level of support put in place.

### FAQ's

## How many A-Levels will I study?

Most of our students take three A levels. Those students with a high average point score from GCSE will be encouraged to complete a EPQ (Extended Project Qualification – Level 3) or possibly a fourth A-Level. Universities, including Oxford, Cambridge and the Russell Group, base their offers on three good A-Levels.

### How do I decide what is best for me?

Deciding upon A level courses can be a challenging process which needs careful consideration. It is important to try and balance subjects that you enjoy and want to pursue further beyond A levels with subjects that, academically, you can achieve in. It is important that you consider carefully your career aspirations as most degree courses and apprenticeships require qualifications in specific subjects.

# What grades do I need to attend JCS?

All students who apply to join our sixth form studying A Levels and BTECs must achieve a **minimum of 5 GCSE grades 9 - 5 (or equivalent)** in separate subjects AND must meet the grade entry requirements for each of their chosen subjects. Students must hold a minimum grade 4 in GCSE English Language and GCSE Maths.

#### Will I need to attend an interview?

We interview our external applicants to JCS Sixth Form. Most interviews take place in March/April. This provides an opportunity for us to find out a little bit about you and discuss your academic progress and GCSE expected grades. It also gives you an opportunity to ask about courses and life as a sixth form student.

# Can I change a course once I have selected it?

Ideally we would like to ensure you select the right courses from the onset. However, occasionally students do change their minds about courses or career plans over the summer holidays. Equally, a few students start a course only to discover it is not suiting them. We would only recommend a course change within the first four weeks of term as, after this point, there is a considerable amount of work you would have missed from the course you are intending to move onto.

# What happens if I don't get the grades I need?

If this happens then don't despair – we are available on results day to discuss your options. There are a range of opportunities available to you in the local area.

# What pastoral support will I receive?

All students are monitored and many are mentored regularly by their Form Tutor or Head of Sixth Form and guidance is provided to ensure they are able to achieve their full potential. Students can request a mentoring meeting as they feel necessary. Three times a year, students will complete the Sixth Form Survey; this will assist staff in identifying those students in need of mentoring and ensure that they are being properly supported.



**Every Student Thriving #GrowingLeaders** 

- Enrichment Programme
- Bespoke Study Centre

