



**Chesterton  
Sixth Form**

**Empowering Minds**

**2026**





## Welcome from the Directors of Sixth Form

We are thrilled that you are considering Chesterton as your next step and becoming an integral member of our community. We are fully committed to providing a unique and forward thinking sixth form experience; one that prepares students with the necessary experiences and skills to thrive in an ever-changing world. We are committed to providing an academic, enriching, and aspirational A-Level offer in the north of Cambridge city. Our recent 'Outstanding' Ofsted judgement in February 2025 is testament to the quality of provision we offer. This, along with our excellent results that place us well above national averages, and our super progression data really highlights just how successful students are at Chesterton Sixth Form.

Students at Chesterton Sixth Form will benefit from exceptionally well-qualified, expert teaching staff working with small classes; an outstanding super-curricular offer designed to make the most of our proximity to Cambridge city; an approach to study which encourages independence, with the freedom to come and go from our campus during the college day; bespoke, individualised support with university and college applications throughout their time with us, and a wide range of opportunities to design, develop and lead on initiatives such as student executives and social committees. In addition, our pastoral programme ensures students receive a holistic offer, through daily contact with their sixth form tutor, with our small cohort size meaning every student is truly well-known.

**We look forward to welcoming students and parents to our open evening on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2025.**

In the meantime, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us with any questions—we'd be really happy to talk to you!



**James Mepham and Ed Bowles**  
Directors of Sixth Form



# Broadening Horizons

**We ensure all students have access to a challenging and engaging programme of opportunities and support to extend their understanding of their curriculum subjects, as well as access to an exciting and carefully curated enrichment programme to broaden horizons beyond their A-Level courses.**

## Enrichment programme

Chesterton Sixth Form provides all students with a programme of exciting enrichment activities, making the most of all that Cambridge has to offer. All students will choose an enrichment programme to suit their interests, designed to extend their experience of sixth form outside of their chosen curriculum areas. We make the most of our stellar performing arts facilities, as well as our proximity to Cambridge city, links with rowing clubs, museums, galleries and university colleges to offer a truly enriching programme of extra-curricular opportunities.

## Community outreach

Our sixth form students form an important part of our local community. We seek and develop opportunities for sixth form students to volunteer in a range of local institutions, from primary schools to community centres.

## Trips and visits

We are committed to providing a range of exciting opportunities for extended visits and travel throughout the sixth form programme.

Both through subjects and the school as a whole, we intend to offer students a wide range of opportunities and trips abroad, in addition to trips closer to home such as theatre trips and concerts; sporting events; parliament visits; London museums and galleries. We work with our partner schools across the Eastern Learning Alliance to ensure the range of trips and visits available to students are excellent.

Students begin their sixth form journey with us with a residential trip at the very beginning of term where the focus is forging our growing sixth form community.

Our visit to Kenya, as part of the Turing scheme in 2023, and our subsequent visits in 2024 and 2025 was life changing for students. Our work with our charity partner and local Kenyan schools provided students with opportunities to step out of their comfort zone and build key life skills and experiences. Our legacy, therefore, is to further establish links with our Kenyan partners and develop a long lasting programme that offers future Chesterton students similar opportunities.





# Care, Guidance and Support

**We use our exceptional pastoral model to provide personalised packages of care and support for all sixth form students, with an absolute focus on knowing and supporting our young people as individuals.**

## All students are known well

The student-centred approach to pastoral care at Chesterton continues at the sixth form. Tutors and teachers know their students extremely well, and we allow staff to dedicate additional time to building relationships founded on trust and support.

## Regular tutor time

A dedicated sixth form tutor team allows small tutor groups the opportunity to meet with their tutor on a regular basis. The sessions are used as opportunities to check in with individuals; assist with concerns or worries; help with organisational elements of courses; provide time to chat with peers and a trusted adult; and support students to gain key skills that will support them in the future.

## Experienced staff teams

Chesterton's exceptional pastoral and safeguarding framework means we hold the systems, expertise and dedicated staff team to provide the foundation for the full range of pastoral support necessary to look after every young person in our sixth form.

## Wellbeing as a priority

Looking after student wellbeing is our number one priority: our robust programme of internal and external wellbeing support, including a 25+ strong team of staff wellbeing mentors; access to counselling; a school-wide focus on mindfulness and self-care; access to dedicated NHS teams and services, and comprehensive signposting for additional support means we are already set up to continue with this at post-16.

## Expert mental health support

We have a wealth of existing links with external mental health support services, in addition to well-trained and experienced staff in-house. We know that small changes in behaviour are often the first noticeable signs of an emerging issue: all staff at Chesterton are trained in recognising and immediately addressing signs of deteriorating mental health in young people, in order to put the most appropriate support in place straight away.





# Higher Education and Careers

We provide all students with a comprehensive programme of one to one support in completing university applications in a wide range of specialist areas, run by expert staff.

## University preparation

### Support includes:

- Academic mentoring
- Trips to university open days
- Small group sessions with visiting admissions tutors

### Regular sessions with subject experts to prepare for:

- Oxbridge, veterinary science and medicine interviews
- Russell Group applications
- University entrance exams

## Careers guidance

Students benefit from a comprehensive and bespoke package of careers guidance, which will encompass:

- One to one sessions focussed on students' next steps
- Visiting speakers and workshops from outside providers
- Work experience opportunities in Cambridge and further afield
- Access to dedicated careers support staff throughout the year
- A progression evening, featuring key note speakers, for parents and students

Over **70%** of students at Chesterton Sixth Form progress to Russell Group universities, with over 90% of the 2025 cohort receiving their first-choice university.

Our Oxbridge and early entry programme supports students and in 2025 6.25% of the cohort achieved a place at either Cambridge or Oxford University. As well as our medicine applicant securing a place at The University of Leicester.

The map highlights a range of destinations that students progressed to in 2025.



- |                             |                            |                             |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ● Cardiff University        | ● University of Exeter     | ● University of Oxford      |
| ● King's College London     | ● University of Glasgow    | ● University of Sheffield   |
| ● University College London | ● University of Leeds      | ● University of Southampton |
| ● University of Bath        | ● University of Leicester  | ● University of Warwick     |
| ● University of Bristol     | ● University of Manchester | ● University of York        |
| ● University of Cambridge   | ● University of Nottingham |                             |



# Admissions

**Chesterton Sixth Form offers the opportunity to study Level 3 courses, including A-Levels and the Level 3 Extended Project Qualification.**

## Entry Requirements

Students will meet our minimum academic entry requirements, in addition to the subject specific requirements for their chosen courses. Minimum academic entry requirements:

- A minimum of 5 grade 6s at GCSE, including 6s in English and Maths.
- If a Level 2 vocational course has been studied as a GCSE alternative, a level 2 Merit will be required.
- A maximum of two level 2 vocational courses will be considered as part of our offer.

## Subject specific entry requirements

These will vary by subject, and will be published in our prospectus and on our website.

Entry requirements will be the same for internal and external applicants as per the Schools Admissions Code.

## Subject choices

It is expected that most students at Chesterton Sixth Form will study three A-Level subjects. They will be able to take the Extended Project Qualification and/or Core Maths alongside if this is appropriate. The opportunity to study four A-Level subjects will be offered to some particularly well-qualified applicants, currently defined as students who have achieved at least an average grade 7 across their best seven GCSE subjects.

## How to apply

**Students who attend Cambridgeshire Area Partnership secondary schools will be able to apply via the MyChoice16 system. You can apply to Chesterton Sixth Form in addition to other providers locally.**

If you do not attend a CAP school, you can apply to Chesterton Sixth Form directly. Please head to our website and fill in an application form - scan the handy QR code to go straight to our admissions page on our website.

We will get in touch with you to arrange a one to one guidance meeting after the CAP deadline in January.

If you'd like to find out more about Chesterton Sixth Form before applying, please get in touch with us: [sixthform@ccc.tela.org.uk](mailto:sixthform@ccc.tela.org.uk) – we'd be really happy to answer your questions.





# Courses and Subjects

**Our expert teachers have selected their courses with students in mind: careful curriculum choices ensure an interesting, varied and academically demanding range of options. Our focus is on providing a bespoke study programme suited to each individual.**

## Ancient History

■ **Entry Requirements**  
**Grade 6 in GCSE History**

What can we learn from ancient inscriptions, coins and writers? How did the Roman Emperors obtain and maintain their power? Were the societies of Sparta and Rome really as brutal as they seem? Find out the answers to all this and more in Ancient History A-Level!

Ancient History provides you with a unique opportunity to learn about the history and culture of Greece and Rome from a historical perspective. In particular, we study ancient Greece in the fifth century BC, and late Republican Rome and the first emperors of Rome. You will look at a variety of original sources, all in English, investigating the writings of the very first ancient historians such as Herodotus and Plutarch. We will also look at the political careers of influential movers and shakers from classical Athens and Republican Rome including Themistocles, Pericles, Julius Caesar and Pompey Magnus.

On the Greek side, we will cover the Greek wars of the fifth century BC – The Persian War and the Peloponnesian War – and the effects they had on the Spartan political and social system. On the Roman side, topics include the dramatic and violent events that marked the fall of the Roman Republic, such as the death of Caesar, a civil war, political conspiracies and the ultimate ascension of Augustus Caesar to Emperor.

At Chesterton Sixth Form we firmly believe in giving students as many opportunities beyond the classroom as possible. We will aim to run our popular trip abroad, to either Greece or Italy. We will also be attending regular lectures, visiting museums both in and beyond Cambridge and participating in national competitions for Ancient History students.

## Art and Design: Fine Art

■ **Entry Requirements**  
**Grade 6 in any Art and Design GCSE**

We offer a truly personalised course where we can build on each student's strength and artistic interests to create a unique learning experience closely supported by their teachers. Students will have the opportunity to explore a broad-based foundation before focusing their work in a specialist area.

Students will explore the four disciplines: Painting, Printmaking, Sculpture and Lens-based image-making with Drawing being central to all.

Our teachers will challenge and nurture students to extend their skills and experience through practical workshops which draw on our expertise and facilities. A process of peer support, group critiques and one-to-one tutorials will enable students to develop their own in-depth specialist pathway.

Students will develop practical skills and they will also be encouraged to develop theoretical and contextual understanding of a wide range of artists and art forms. Students will take risks, develop resilience and nurture their own creativity and problem solving to become confident artists. They will explore and express personal ideas about themes and issues important to them and enjoy producing meaningful art work.

## Art and Design: Photography

■ **Entry Requirements**  
**Grade 6 in any Art and Design GCSE**

We offer a truly personalised Photography course where we build on each student's strength and interests to create a unique learning experience. Students will be closely supported by staff and have access to our dark room.

Photography is subdivided into the following three disciplines:

- Film-based photography
- Digital photography
- Film and video

Our teachers will challenge and nurture students to extend their skills and experience through practical workshops which draw on our expertise and facilities. A process of peer support, group critiques and one-to-one tutorials will enable students to develop their own personalised lens-based work.

Photographers will develop practical skills and they will also be encouraged to develop theoretical and contextual understanding of a wide range of photographers, film makers and lens-based art forms. Students will take risks, develop resilience and nurture their own creativity and problem solving to become confident photographers. They will explore and express personal ideas about themes and issues important to them and enjoy producing meaningful photography work.

## Biology

■ **Entry Requirements**  
**Grades 7-6 in GCSE Combined Science and 7 in GCSE Mathematics or Grades 7-7 in GCSE Combined Science and 6 in GCSE Mathematics or Grade 7 in GCSE Biology and 6 in GCSE Chemistry and Mathematics**

A level Biology explores living systems in all their intricate beauty. You will study life on a range of different levels, from biochemistry to cells to physiology to ecosystems, and how we can apply this knowledge to fields such as medicine, biotechnology, conservation, and sustainable development. With an understanding of biology we learn about how organisms work and their impact on the world, and from this we can begin to propose solutions to the problems our planet will face in the future.

This subject is a great choice for keen problem solvers with a fine attention to detail. Throughout the course you will develop your math skills and the ability to evaluate the complex social implications of biological research. Practical work is a key part of study at CSF, and you will keep a lab folder to evidence the development of your practical skills and techniques throughout the course. As well as studying in school, students will participate in a range of visits to research institutes, conservation sites, and other areas of interest.



# Courses and Subjects

## Chemistry

■ **Entry Requirements**  
**Grades 7-6 in GCSE Combined Science and 7 in GCSE Mathematics or Grades 7-7 in GCSE Combined Science and 6 in GCSE Mathematics or Grade 7 in GCSE Chemistry and 7 in either GCSE Mathematics or another GCSE Science**

Study something fundamental to our world: chemistry plays a role in everyone's lives and touches almost every aspect of our existence in some way, from the air we breathe to technologies that enrich our quality of life. Chemistry will continue to be at the forefront of discovery, part of the quest to better humanity.

The Chemistry curriculum is exciting as outcomes could lead us to discovering new drugs, creative in the possibility of inventing new compounds or new uses for existing ones. It is challenging, using problem-solving skills to solve hunger, disease and pollution.

## Classical Civilisation

■ **Entry Requirements**  
**Grade 6 in GCSE History or English Literature / English Language**

Discover the fragments of the lost love poet of Lesbos, learn how to read Greek sculpture and make an odyssey across mythical lands in A-Level Classical Civilisation – and more!

Classical Civilisation allows students to immerse themselves in the Greek and Roman culture, regardless of their previous experience studying the ancient world.

It is a wide-ranging subject involving the study of literature, art and philosophy, which in turn reveal insights into ancient thought and ideas, and their ancient historical context. You don't need to know any languages, since all the texts are in translation. It also doesn't matter if you haven't studied the Greeks and Romans since primary school; all you need is an interest in the ancient world and its cultures.

We firmly believe in giving students as many opportunities beyond the classroom as possible. We will aim to run our popular trip abroad, to either Greece or Italy. We will also be attending regular lectures, visiting museums both in and beyond Cambridge and participating in national competitions for Classical Civilisation students. Students are also offered the opportunity to study a crash-course in Classical Greek, earning them an extra GCSE by the end of their time with us.

## Classical Greek

■ **Entry Requirements**  
**Grade 6 in GCSE Greek**

Studying Classical Greek means becoming an expert linguist, an imaginative philosopher, a sage storyteller, an ancient historian and a critical thinker. Join Socrates after dinner as he debates with his friends about the power of Eros, love. Then journey with Odysseus as he seeks his home of Ithaca despite a myriad of obstacles in his way.

The course offers the chance to build on the language skills acquired in GCSE to increase confidence and fluency of reading. By the end of the course all students should be able to read unseen Greek poetry and prose. It also offers the chance to do an in-depth study of the philosophical dialogue of Plato's Symposium and the rip-roaring epic of Homer's Odyssey.

## Computer Science

■ **Entry Requirements**  
**Grade 6 in GCSE Computer Science**

If you have an inquisitive and questioning mindset and may have completed the GCSE Computer Science course with a desire to understand the topics to a deeper level, then Computer Science is for you.

Computer Science is a fascinating subject which has now become one of the most important subjects that employers seek in many professions. It allows you to understand the underpinnings to all technology, how that has evolved over time, and how software and hardware continue to change to keep pace with the demands we place upon them.

## Criminology

■ **Entry Requirements**  
**Grade 6 in a GCSE humanities subject**

Criminology is an exciting course combining elements of Psychology, Sociology, Law and Media/Design.

In Unit 1 you will explore different types of crime and deviance, influences on perceptions of crime and why some crimes are unreported. You will design campaigns addressing under-reported crimes, drawing on elements of media and design skills. This unit is assessed by an 8 hour controlled assessment mid-way through Year 12. You can use all of your notes to support you with this.

In Unit 2 you will explore biological, psychological and sociological theories of crime to understand why people commit crime and then analyse approaches that have been used to reduce crime rates. This is assessed by an exam at the end of Year 12.

In Unit 3, Crime Scene to Courtroom, you will analyse the criminal justice system and its agencies from the moment a crime has been committed to the verdict. You will develop skills needed to review the justice of verdicts. This unit will involve trips to the local Magistrates' Court and Crown Court to observe the CJS in action. This unit is also assessed by controlled assessment.

In Unit 4 you will apply your understanding to evaluate the effectiveness of social control to deliver criminal justice policy. This is assessed by an exam at the end of Year 13.

## Drama

■ **Entry Requirements**  
**Grade 6 in GCSE Drama or experiences of performance / plays outside of school**

A three-part programme of pre-professional, theatrical training. Make magic happen! Delve deep into understanding the stagecraft behind it. Collaborate with other starry personalities and become the individual artist you dream to be!

Drama is all about how you create, perform and spectate theatre. It requires you to adopt the mindset of a professional director, actor, designer and writer. You work both as an individual and as part of a dedicated company. You also engage in analysis and evaluation through discussion and writing.

Drama empowers you with the confidence, the knowledge and the sheer passion to be the best version of yourself; to become a strong and inspiring leader; and to thrive in future relationships at work and in life. The emphasis will be on practical exploration and discovery. We will work together to encounter unforgettable performances, so that individual outcomes and shared experiences reflect our highest hopes.

Those who are considering pursuing performing arts further, as well as those with a keen interest in theatre, cultural history and politics, world literature and the place of arts in society should definitely consider Drama. The course here can enhance your outcomes and motivation in every subject.



# Courses and Subjects

## Economics

■ **Entry Requirements**  
**Grade 6 in GCSE Maths**  
**Grade 6 in GCSE Geography or History**

Economics is not simply all about numbers. It is the study of the world around us from a social, financial and cultural perspective, gaining an understanding of economic theories and interrelationships between macro and micro economic issues.

A-level Economics will give you an excellent understanding of how economies allocate their scarce resources to meet the needs and wants of their citizens. You will develop a greater understanding of the economic problems which face individuals, firms and governments on a local, national and global level and the alternative ways these problems can be resolved. You will investigate microeconomic topics such as how individual decisions impact economic outcomes, the importance of competition, how markets operate and why they fail and how the distribution of income and wealth is affected. At the same time you will learn about macroeconomics, looking at the 'big picture' of how our national economy fits into the global context, the global impact of financial markets and monetary policy and the operation of the international economy.

## English Language

■ **Entry Requirements**  
**Grade 6 in GCSE English**  
**Language / Literature**

How does language shape us? Where can we see its influence in our personalities, culture and world view? These and many more questions will be posed, discussed and hopefully answered in your study of English Language. The development, discourses and diversity that exist within our language will form the central underpinning of this subject, offering you the chance to explore a wide range of texts and topics through in-class debate as well as your own independent study.

English Language offers you the chance to engage creatively and critically with a wide range of texts and discourses. In this course you will create texts and reflect critically on the processes of production, while analysing the texts produced by others.

Our course explores the English language both as a medium of communication and as a topic in its own right, as you pursue lines of enquiry, debate different views and work independently to research aspects of language in use. Through textual analysis, commentary and your own personal research, you will discover the power of language as a creative tool for expression, as well as a system used to assert power in society.

## English Literature

■ **Entry Requirements**  
**Grade 6 in GCSE English**  
**Language / Literature**

How have productions of Shakespeare's Hamlet changed over the past 400 years? Which themes unite a Norwegian play written in the 1800s with a medieval poem? What are the defining characteristics of dystopian fiction? English Literature A-level offers you the chance to consider these core questions as you explore influential works of literature spanning time, society and cultures. As you delve into the genres of tragedy, dystopian fiction and realist drama, you will explore timeless questions about human nature and its power both to unite and divide us.

English Literature centres on the study of texts, anchored by the central tenets of theme, genre, authorial intent and context. You will study a wide range of prose, drama and poetry, engaging in critical discussion and unpicking theorists along the way. You will also have the chance to complete a piece of original coursework. By embarking on this fascinating subject, you will equip yourself to become a more intellectually curious and empathetic individual; you will develop your skills as both a reader and a writer while broadening your horizons and understanding of the world around us.

## Environmental Science

■ **Entry Requirements**  
**Grades 6, 6 in any two GCSE Sciences**  
**Grade 6 or above in GCSE Mathematics**

Environmental Science allows you a practical approach to all three sciences, from the creations of our Earth and its atmosphere to how we measure and predict change as well as looking to the further to ensure human existence on Earth.

Environmental Scientists – using a vast amount of experimental techniques and field study-based research – will explore the scientific systems of gathering data and evaluating evidence to support the future of our planet.

A natural curiosity about the world around you will help to thrive in Environmental Science. You will be passionate about our planet and have an interest in finding out more about the impact of human activity on Earth seeking ways in which environmental damage can be halted or even reversed.

## Extended Project Qualification

■ **Entry Requirements**  
**Not applicable**

The Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) offers students an exciting opportunity to pursue a subject they are passionate about in greater depth, while honing their independent research skills in readiness for further study. At Chesterton Sixth Form students will benefit from a dedicated EPQ tutor who will support them throughout the project, in addition to seminar-based teaching of core skills in research, project design and management, producing effective extended writing and much more.

Students are free to choose their own project's focus and outcome. They will receive one to one input from an expert member of staff throughout the project. The outcome can be a design, performance, report, dissertation or artefact.

## Film Studies

■ **Entry Requirements**  
**Grade 6 in GCSE English**  
**Grade 6 in GCSE Film Studies (if taken)**

You will never look at film the same way again after you take Film Studies at Chesterton Sixth Form. We will tailor the course to make sure you get to think about the films that are important to you, while setting out on an exciting journey into 11 vital examples of cinema, preferring a practical approach wherever possible.

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.



# Courses and Subjects

## French

### ■ Entry Requirements Grade 6 in GCSE French

Studying French at Chesterton is an exciting challenge that will open your mind to a broad range of issues affecting the world today. You will secure your linguistic skills with a French native speaker and develop an awareness of the Francophone world as well as establish your place as a global citizen. This rich course will give you the opportunity to take part in cinema visits and trips to France.

Learning French offers the pleasure of learning a beautiful, rich, melodious language. Also known as the language of love, French is spoken across the world. It is also an analytical language that structures thoughts and develops critical thinking, which are valuable skills for discussion and negotiation. French develops your linguistic knowledge alongside your understanding of the culture and society of the Francophone world.

## Geography

### ■ Entry Requirements Grade 6 in GCSE Geography

Earth is warming. Coasts are changing shape. Cities are expanding. Extreme poverty is declining. Natural disasters do damage daily. How are these connected? Civilisation faces many overlapping challenges. Geography explores these challenges, helping you to make sense of the world.

AQA A-Level Geography offers a selection of new, interesting topics not covered during GCSE studies. For example, changing places, global governance, and wildfire hazards. Topics you previously studied are visited in greater depth. For example, coastal systems, urban environments, and the carbon cycle. There is also a greater focus on links between topics, allowing you to learn about familiar and unfamiliar issues from a

range of different perspectives. Inside the classroom, you learn using photos, stories, graphs, and maps. Outside the classroom, you learn by completing a mix of guided and independent investigations.

You are assessed by a combination of exam and coursework. Paper 1, focusing on physical geography, is an exam worth 40% of the qualification. Paper 2, focusing on human geography, is also an exam worth another 40%. The final 20% of the qualification is an independent investigation. Students plan and complete an investigation into a geographical issue of their choice. This includes choosing a question, collecting then analysing data, and evaluating conclusions.

Through lessons and assessment, Chesterton A-Level Geographers develop a range of transferable skills. For example, extended writing, critical thinking, and data interpretation. These are valuable for various future study and career paths.

## German

### ■ Entry Requirements Grade 6 in GCSE German applicant is bilingual / near-native standard

Did you know that Germany has the world's third largest economy? It is home to some of the world's best-known manufacturing and engineering companies including Volkswagen, Siemens, Audi, BMW, and Thyssenkrupp.

German enhances the knowledge, understanding and skills acquired at GCSE. It allows you to broaden your vocabulary, deepen your grammatical competence and develop your listening, reading and writing skills. It immerses you in the rich and vibrant history, art, music, politics and society of the German-speaking world. It fosters communication, critical thinking, research skills and creativity.

## History

### ■ Entry Requirements Grade 6 in GCSE History

From the quirks of the British political system, through the injustices that sparked the Black Lives Matter movements, to ongoing conflicts today, it is clear that the past continues to shape our world. Chesterton Sixth Form's global History curriculum, taking you beyond British history to a diverse range of eras, countries, cultures and states, will equip you to understand these historical currents that affect our lives.

History is unparalleled as a subject in its wealth of controversial debates, fascinating stories and human interest. It is an excellent choice for students who are curious about unfamiliar past societies, who want to tackle interesting puzzles and challenging questions, or who have enjoyed GCSE History. This course will take you towards a deeper understanding of the historical discipline itself. History is about argument: in our classrooms, expect to argue about why events occurred and how much change really happened, to study original sources and to engage in dialogue with historians as they interpret the past.

#### Our units include:

- African Kingdoms, 1400-1800
- Russia and its Rulers, 1855-1964
- Alfred and the Making of England, 871-1016
- Coursework on a topic of your choice

## Latin

### ■ Entry Requirements Grade 6 in GCSE Latin

Latin is a fascinating, precise and challenging language. In pursuing an A Level in Latin, you will hone your skills and speed in processing information and the ability to focus on fine details while constructing larger meaning. Through the reading of original texts, you will develop an appreciation of the differences and similarities between the ideas and values of Ancient Roman society and our own. You will also develop your skills in producing clear, concise writing as well as building your analytical skills through literary analysis and detailed language work.

Half of the course will focus on expanding your knowledge of grammar and vocabulary, and practising translating from English into Latin and Latin into English. The remaining half of the course is dedicated to Roman Literature and its context. After a wider sampling of Latin authors to provide practice and a broader base of knowledge, you will read one selection of poetry (usually Virgil) and a prose author as your prescribed texts.



# Courses and Subjects

## Maths

### ■ Entry Requirements Grade 7 in GCSE Mathematics

Mathematics is so much more than a subject about numbers. Real maths is a heady mixture of exploring the abstract and deciphering the world around us. On a large scale mathematics provides us with the tools and language to decode the universe, but on a smaller, more human scale, it provides us with the practical knowledge to win at Monopoly! Studying Maths will equip you with the knowledge you need to understand all of the above and the skills required to live in an ever-increasingly technological world. As Bertrand Russell said, 'Mathematics rightly viewed possesses not only truth but supreme beauty.'

A level Mathematics is a mixture of Pure and Applied learning. The pure aspect refers to the content and abstract understanding of principles that are largely an extension of topics covered at GCSE. You will continue to learn about sequences, geometry, graphs, data analysis and proof, underpinned by some exciting new areas like Calculus.

The Applied aspect of the course focuses on using the Pure content to model and solve problems in real world situations. This primarily focuses on analysing 'big data' sets and modelling mechanical systems.

## Maths (Core)

### ■ Entry Requirements Grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics

Maths is important. Not only will you need it in your future career, but you may well need it for some of your A level subjects (Geography, Biology and Psychology are just three subjects that feature more maths than you might think). If you are not already doing Maths then Core Maths will give you the maths skills you need to succeed in these subjects.

Core Maths is not an A level and you cannot take it if you are already doing A level Maths. It is a Level 3 qualification that is worth half an A level in terms of UCAS points and is designed to support the mathematical knowledge you will encounter in subjects like Geography and Biology. Its focus is on mathematics in the real world and the content is driven by what is useful in other subjects.

While there will be time given to practise some standard GCSE mathematical skills, much of the lesson time will be spent on problem solving, interpreting data and casting a critical eye over how mathematical information is used in the wider world. Newspaper articles and everyday experiences where some mathematical wisdom is insightful will be the focus of most lessons.

## Maths (Further)

### ■ Entry Requirements Grade 8 in GCSE Mathematics and a strong GCSE profile that suggests you have good independent study skills

Are you definitely intending to do A level Maths? Would you like the chance to do a fourth A level? Have you got good study skills and a strong GCSE profile? Then Further Maths is for you.

Further Mathematics is an opportunity to study for a second A level in Mathematics alongside the main subject. You cannot study Further Maths on its own because it builds on the concepts used in Maths and explores them in greater depth. Further Maths is particularly useful as a bridge to university degree courses in subjects with a high mathematical content such as Maths, Physics, Engineering, Computer Science, Economics and Chemistry but is highly regarded as an elite qualification by universities in all subjects.

Like Maths, Further Maths is split into Pure and Applied sections, with the Pure content exploring concepts such as complex (imaginary) numbers, differential equations and matrices, while the Applied section extends the work on Statistics and Mechanics from the main course. There is also the potential for students to study some Decision Mathematics centred around network theory.

Further Maths is taught in a similar way to Maths and has the same focus on problem solving and modelling in the real world, although there is a greater need for independent learning.

## Music

### ■ Entry Requirements Grade 6 in GCSE Music or Grade 5 in an instrument / voice and music theory if GCSE Music not taken At least Grade 5 standard on an instrument/voice at the start of the course

Music combines creative, practical and academic skills. This is an inspiring and diverse course. If you love making and listening to music, this is undoubtedly the course for you.

Music is a highly regarded academic subject and sits well with choices from a range of other subject areas. It is a creative subject which can be tailored to meet the interests of all musicians. There is a large coursework element, giving you the real chance to explore areas of music you particularly enjoy, while the listening and appraising paper gives you a solid grounding in musical analysis and listening and appraising skills. Practical music-making will run throughout the course: exploring music through doing. Those who study Music are respected as well-rounded musicians. Universities and employers also value musicians for their wider skill set, including self-motivation, performance and presentation skills, analytical skills, organisational skills and the ability to work as a team.

Throughout the Music course, there will be regular concert and performance visits within Cambridgeshire and London. There will also be opportunities to take part in a wide range of extracurricular musical activities, including weekly rehearsals of high-quality ensembles and choirs across a huge range of styles. There will be regular performance opportunities in prestigious local venues such as West Road Concert Hall and St John's College Chapel. Music students will be given particular opportunities to regularly showcase their performance and composition work. We intend to also offer a residential visit.



# Courses and Subjects

## Psychology

■ **Entry Requirements**  
**Grade 6 in GCSE Science**  
**Grade 6 in GCSE Maths**  
**Grade 6 in GCSE English**

Can you implant false memories into someone's brain? Would a normal person flip a switch to kill someone if an authority figure told them to? What is the underlying cause of mental illness? Psychologists seek to uncover the underlying factors that influence human behaviour, from social pressures and childhood experiences to genetics and hormones.

Psychology is the scientific study of the human mind and behaviour. In year 12, you will cover a wide range of topics including social influence, memory, attachment, and psychopathology (mental illness). In year 13, you will study schizophrenia, forensic psychology, and relationships. Throughout your studies, you will improve your technical writing, science and maths skills through investigations of these topics along with conducting your own psychological research project. Studying psychology is an excellent tool to help you understand why people act the way they do. The skills and knowledge you develop from psychology can be applied to a wide variety of future pathways including clinical, educational, and sports psychology.

## PE

■ **Entry Requirements**  
**Grade 6 in GCSE Physical Education**  
**(if taken)**  
**Experiences of performance/performing**  
**for club outside of school**

### Have you ever wondered...

How you could take your sports performance to an elite level? Why some people can run faster than others? If the monetary cost of hosting the Olympics is worth it? How your personality and the mind affects your performance? Why people take performance-enhancing drugs and, if drugs were legal for all, what would the sporting world look like? Why we 'hit the wall' during exercise? How technology can help improve your performance in sport?

Study Physical Education to find out the answers!

Take advantage of the excellent sports facilities, access to a modern and well-equipped fitness suite and trips to national institutions, which promote elite performance in sport.

We provide a truly personalised experience, which delivers the content of the course and builds on your own area of interest via links to sport-specific opportunities with local and national institutions.





# Courses and Subjects

## Physics

■ **Entry Requirements**  
**Grades 7-6 in GCSE Combined Science and 7 in GCSE Mathematics or Grade 7 in GCSE Physics, 7 in GCSE Mathematics, and 6 in another GCSE Science**

Physics is more than a subject – it trains your brain to think beyond boundaries. Through studying A-level Physics you will stretch your imagination as you contemplate the nature of time and matter itself.

You will learn about everything from kinematics to cosmology and many recent developments in fascinating topics, such as particle physics. If you are interested in the limits of space, the beginning of time and everything in between then this is the subject for you.

Initially you will be studying the foundations of physics and moving to more complex ideas such as the Newtonian world and astrophysics as well as particles and medical physics in your second year.

## Government and Politics

■ **Entry Requirements**  
**Grade 6 in GCSE English**  
**Grade 6 in GCSE Geography, History or Politics (if taken)**

*‘A subject vital for anyone interested in the lively, unpredictable and controversial world we live in today’*

Politics and government are impossible to ignore; politics is the bones of our society; government forms the institutions that oversee our daily lives. More importantly our government and politics are underpinned by political ideas and ideologies which reflect our beliefs as human beings.

You will also have the chance to study and engage with the following topics:

- UK Government and Politics
- US Government and Politics
- Political ideas

Politics students here at Chesterton Sixth Form will be those who want to ask questions, create debate, and challenge assumptions. Politics is the subject for you if you have an interest in how government works, want to know more about the competing ideas on how to run a country, and enjoy debate and discussion.

You may have studied Citizenship at GCSE and enjoyed it, or you might be completely new to the subject; there is no prerequisite requirement either way.

As such, it is a fast-paced and engaging subject which will equip you with a range of transferable knowledge and skills going forward. For example, this course gives you a chance to sharpen your critical mind, develop your writing skills and practice engaging in verbal discussion and debate. It also gives you an opportunity that many individuals never get – the chance to truly understand how politics works and to become engaged, empowered, and active citizens going forward in your life and career.

## Religion, Philosophy and Ethics (RPE)

■ **Entry Requirements**  
**Grade 6 in GCSE English**  
**Grade 6 in GCSE Religious Studies (if taken)**

The Religious Studies course gives you the opportunity to explore the three key strands of religion, philosophy and ethics in depth. There will be the opportunity to discuss and debate ideas both within the classroom and beyond, with trips to key talks and exhibitions and a planned visit to the home of Ancient Philosophy in Athens.

In Philosophy of religion learners will study philosophical issues and questions raised by religion and belief. These include arguments regarding the existence or non-existence of God, the nature and influence of religious experience and the problems of evil and suffering. They will also explore philosophical language and thought, through significant concepts and the works of key thinkers, illustrated in issues or debates in the philosophy of religion.

Religion and ethics is characterised by the study of ethical language and thought, with exploration of key concepts and the works of influential thinkers. Ethical theory will also be applied to issues of importance; namely euthanasia, business ethics, and sexual ethics.

Developments in Christian thought provides an opportunity for the systematic study of Christianity. This will include the exploration of religious beliefs, values, teachings and practices that shape religious identity, as well as sources of wisdom and authority. Also central are the ways in which religious traditions have developed over time, and religious responses to challenges and significant contemporary social issues.

## Sociology

■ **Entry Requirements**  
**Grade 6 in GCSE humanities subject**  
**Grade 6 in GCSE Sociology (if taken)**

By believing in a hands-on approach to research and engaging fully with the issues of our modern society, Sociology at Chesterton will suit students who want to make a difference in the world while developing a greater understanding of social diversity.

Sociology will help you understand what works well but mostly what is dysfunctional in society. You will develop a critical awareness of issues in contemporary society with a respect for social diversity and learn the importance of social action in explaining social issues.

With Sociology, you will hone your writing, argumentative and organisational skills.



# Courses and Subjects

## Spanish

■ **Entry Requirements**  
**Grade 6 in GSCE Spanish or**  
**applicant is bilingual / near-native standard**

Do you have an interest in Hispanic society, culture, traditions and politics?

The ability to communicate in other languages is a great asset for work, study and leisure. Studying Spanish at Chesterton Sixth Form will give you a profound understanding of the second most-widely spoken language in the world. Not only will you know more about the mechanics of the language – grammar and vocabulary – but also about how people live and use the language on a daily basis.

There will be opportunities throughout the two years to go on trips to the cinema, theatre, university and conferences. We can offer you work experience teaching our secondary school students in mini-workshops. We can help you organise a work experience placement, intensive course or exchange in Spain. All these activities will add to your learning experience and will help you forge friendships and feel at home in 21 countries.

Spanish is one of the six official languages of the United Nations. This course involves reading and listening to a wide variety of media texts, news and magazine articles and broadcasts. You will be able to develop your reading, listening and speaking skills through class-based discussion as well as using the language to produce different types of written essays. You will have the opportunity to develop a range of transferable skills including communication, critical thinking, research and creativity, which are valuable to the individual and society.







## Get in touch

Tours of the Sixth Form are encouraged, visit our website or get in touch to arrange your visit.



### **Chesterton Sixth Form**

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