



# PETER SYMONDS COLLEGE



**PROSPECTUS  
2022**

Ed Carter  
Kings School

Subjects  
Mathematics  
Music  
Spanish

Activities  
Jazz Ensemble  
Big Band



“Support and welfare for students is one of the college’s top priorities. There are one-to-one sessions in and around Tutor time, and many workshops so you don’t fall behind in classes. The teaching and environment is fantastic and they do everything to ensure the best for everyone. I can’t recommend it enough.”

Ed Carter

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## COVID-19

Please note, the information and dates included in this Prospectus may be subject to change to ensure compliance with Covid-19 guidelines. Please check the website, [psc.ac.uk](http://psc.ac.uk), for the most up to date information.

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All level 3 courses are A Level, apart from those marked:

1. BTEC courses
2. Cambridge Technical courses
3. EDUQAS Diploma courses
4. T Level course
5. VTCT Diploma course (32 UCAS points)



Flo Cooper  
The Westgate School

# WELCOME

TO PETER SYMONDS

Leaders and managers have designed and developed a challenging curriculum that enables students to achieve and often exceed expectations.

Ofsted 2020

## Welcome to our College prospectus for 2022 entry.



Peter Symonds College is a fantastic place to learn and study, where you will enjoy being part of a vibrant thriving community. We are proud of our traditional academic roots, but as you will see we are also a modern, dynamic and forward-thinking college, offering a wide range of subjects with a clear focus on individuality. Our motto has long been 'Counting in Ones'.

Peter Symonds is one of the country's most successful colleges and our vision is to help you achieve the best possible future. We offer our students an unrivalled programme of subjects, enrichment opportunities and specialist support to ensure you will be successful in preparing for your next steps. Whilst this means supporting you to excel in your academic achievements, it also means providing you with opportunities to learn outside of the classroom, develop new skills, make new friends and realise your ambitions.

As you may be aware, Peter Symonds College was inspected by Ofsted in January 2020 and I am delighted that it reconfirmed the College's status as an 'outstanding' provider, a grade the College has now maintained for an incredible 16 years. Peter Symonds has long had a great reputation for excellence, student support and enrichment and I am so pleased these qualities come through so strongly in the report. Sixteen years as an outstanding provider is a magnificent achievement and not only testament to the strong foundations of the College but also recognition of our commitment to continuously evolve and improve.

We are a friendly and supportive college with high aspirations for all. With an inspirational approach to teaching and learning and a proven track record in sixth form education we are proud of our outstanding reputation.

We have created a unique learning community with a brilliant mix of motivated students, dedicated staff and fantastic facilities which makes Peter Symonds an exciting and positive place to study. It is impossible to tell you all about Peter Symonds College in just a few pages so please do find out more on one of our Open Evenings. A tremendous range of opportunities awaits you.

I very much look forward to meeting you and welcoming you to the College in September 2022.

Sara Russell  
Principal

“A brilliant mix of motivated students, dedicated staff and fantastic facilities makes Peter Symonds a vibrant and positive place to study.”

Sara Russell, Principal



# WHY PETER SYMONDS?

BY FRANKIE WYNNE, STUDENT UNION REPRESENTATIVE

Symonds is a place where everyone feels welcome and supported. With all the opportunities and activities provided by the college there is something for everyone, no matter what it is you want to do.



The teaching at Symonds is of an incredibly high quality, with teachers always willing to answer any questions you may have through e-mails, one-to-one meetings and weekly subject workshops. Subjects cover a wide range of topics within their curriculum and there are many opportunities to extend your learning beyond the classroom with many extension lectures and activities provided by both staff and other students.

Extracurricular activities really are a brilliant way of meeting likeminded students, and with such a range there is something for everybody, even if it means creating your own activity! There are chances to get involved directly with the college by helping out on open evenings, volunteering to represent the careers department and engaging with the Student Parliament – or even running in an election for a position in the Student Union. Symonds also hosts a wide range of events throughout the year, including a Higher Education fair, Careers day and workshops for applying to university, which are really useful when making decisions about what to do after leaving college.

The support at college – whether it's subject specific, advice on what to progress onto after leaving Symonds, or emotional support - is truly incredible. The Hub and Counselling services are a true asset to the college, with the Hub operating a drop-in service and sometimes even hosting therapy dogs for whenever you might need help. Tutors are brilliant at giving advice and pointing you in the right direction to



a college support service for any issue, and the Careers department is exceptional for support with applications to jobs, apprenticeships and universities, including Oxbridge (for which there is specialist help) and overseas universities.

Symonds is a brilliant environment to become more independent and prepare yourself for the future with plenty of independent study opportunity and a wealth of resources in our Learning Resource Centre, including study spaces and access to hundreds of books, films, podcasts and documentaries to assist you in your work. Another opportunity to develop your independence and to really get a taste of what university could be like is the Extended Project Qualification, where you research into a topic of your choice and produce an artefact or dissertation based on your research, and for this the LRC is a truly remarkable resource with access to many journals and academic papers.

The diversity of the student body, the amount of support available, and the fantastic opportunities, are just some of the many reasons I have enjoyed my time here so much, and why I would always recommend studying at Peter Symonds College.



“The diversity of the student body, the amount of support available, and the fantastic opportunities, are just some of the many reasons I have enjoyed my time here so much, and why I would always recommend studying at Peter Symonds College.”

Frankie Wynne

## GET INVOLVED

### STUDENT UNION

The Student Union represents all students in meetings with staff, senior managers and outside bodies. They work closely with Student Services to organise events, awareness-raising campaigns and fundraising activities. You can become involved in the Union as the representative elected by your tutor group or by being elected as an Executive Officer in a college election.

### CHARITY INVOLVEMENT

Cake sales, sponsored events, volunteering – whichever way you wish to support a charity, we can provide support and guidance along the way. Diversity Festival, Love Week, Health and Wellbeing Fair, Road Safety Awareness Week – these are just a few of the events recently organised by Student Services, with the help of the Student Union. Often with a focus on health issues and frequently including a charity fundraising element, these are fun events to get involved with and bring together students from across the College.

# WHAT MAKES PETER SYMONDS SPECIAL?

10 KEY FACTS



**1 THE PERFECT PLACE FOR AMBITION**  
Our students achieve great things. They get better grades than would be expected from their starting points, they progress to competitive universities in huge numbers, and once there our students get better degree results than students from elsewhere. The College remains the perfect place for ambition.

**2 FANTASTIC FACILITIES**  
The College campus has a university feel with high quality specialist teaching facilities, extensive space for independent learning, and social spaces for taking a break.

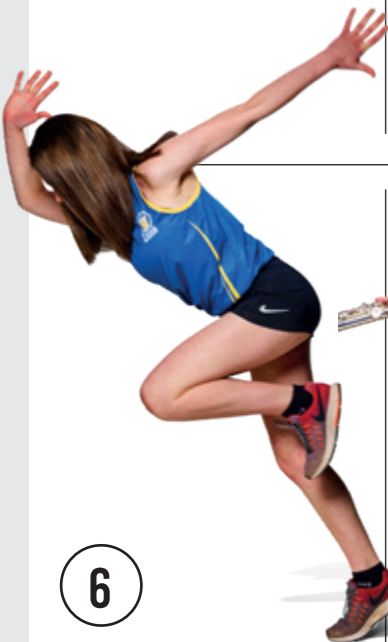


**3 INSPIRATIONAL TEACHING**  
Our subjects are delivered by dedicated expert teams, who are passionate about helping you to be inspired by your studies and achieve outstanding outcomes.

**4 COURSES TO SUIT YOU**  
Our wide range of subjects enable us to work with you to produce a set of courses that are adapted to your strengths, needs and ambitions. Many students take the Extended Project to allow them to study an area of their choice in significant depth.



**5 AWARD WINNING SUPPORT**  
Lunchtime workshops, a personal tutor, dedicated tutor time and one-to-one sessions to ensure you are getting the support you need. We pride ourselves on the award winning support that we offer all students. This includes our counselling services, study support and the drop-in services of The Hub.



**6 UNRIVALLED ENRICHMENT**  
Peter Symonds has one of the biggest programmes of enrichment activities among UK colleges. With over 170 activities from debating societies, dance teams challenge and self defence to PSC community volunteers, we have something for everyone.



**7 CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE**  
We have a national reputation for excellence in music and competitive sport. Our passion for performance spans every course and activity.



**8 OUTSTANDING FOR A GENERATION**  
Our most recent Ofsted inspection in January 2020 once again rated Peter Symonds as 'outstanding', a grade we have now maintained for an amazing 16 years.



**9 LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION**  
Peter Symonds is situated in the beautiful cathedral city of Winchester. The College is four minutes' walk from the train station, and a short walk from the shops and restaurants of the bustling city centre.



**10 OUR STUDENTS**  
The most important ingredient that contributes to making Peter Symonds special is our students, who are confident, mature, highly motivated and with high aspirations. Come and join our diverse, vibrant, exciting community, and form friendships that last a lifetime.



Governors have worked with senior leaders to maintain an inclusive curriculum and supportive ethos, while still maintaining expectations about high standards.  
Ofsted 2020

# THE FACTS

YOU NEED TO KNOW



16 YEARS AS AN OUTSTANDING PROVIDER OFSTED 2020



1504 STUDENTS WENT TO UNIVERSITY IN 2020

220 STUDENTS INVOLVED IN MUSIC

OVER 170 ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES ON OFFER

56 OXBRIDGE OFFERS IN 2021

73 STUDENTS, ON AVERAGE, QUALIFY FOR AoC NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

“OUR MOTTO IS ‘COUNTING IN ONES’”

79 BOARDING PLACES AT THE COLLEGE

100% OF STUDENTS OFFERED A TIMETABLED ENRICHMENT ACTIVITY

558 STUDENTS ARE INVOLVED IN SPORTS TEAMS

UP TO 2 LESSONS OF TUTOR SUPPORT PER WEEK

4 MINUTES' WALK FROM WINCHESTER TRAIN STATION

THE PSC CATCHMENT AREA IS 8000 MILES

STUDENTS ATTEND FROM AS FAR AFIELD AS THE FALKLAND ISLANDS

OUTSTANDING MUSIC PROGRESSION TO CONSERVATOIRES AND TOP UNIVERSITIES

PREVIOUS OVERSEAS TRIPS INCLUDE KENYA, UGANDA, THE AZORES, COSTA RICA, NEW YORK, BERLIN, GREECE, SWITZERLAND, PARIS, SPAIN, HONDURAS, SAN FRANCISCO

10 MINS TO WALK INTO WINCHESTER

39 SPORTS TEAMS  
19 DIFFERENT SPORTS

62 STUDENTS OFFERED PLACES TO STUDY MEDICINE IN 2020

In the heart of Winchester and within acres of green space, Peter Symonds College is a vibrant and friendly place, with great opportunities to expand your learning, explore new experiences and build long-lasting friendships. The campus has a university feel, where buildings both old and new house state-of-the-art studios, science laboratories, a Learning Resource Centre, media suites, classrooms and IT rooms.

# OUR FACILITIES

## STUDY AND LEARNING SPACE

Our Learning Resource Centre (LRC) provides an open, light and spacious environment in which you can find the resources you will need to support your learning. We provide approximately 600 individual study spaces in silent and quiet study areas, as well as seminar rooms for group work. We have a large collection of non-fiction and fiction books, journals, magazines, DVDs and newspapers that help support your studies as well as your wider interests. In this area alone, you will have access to over 250 PCs and laptops, which you can use for your studies. The College is fully wifi-enabled, so you are also able to use your own laptop or mobile device. There are more study spaces available in the Hopkins Study Centre, on the ground floor of the Hopkins building. An outstanding online resources collection is also available to you at College and at home, and significantly enhances the information accessible to you for your studies and research projects.



LEARNING RESOURCE CENTRE



RECITAL ROOM



MERCERS' SPORTS HALL



## SOCIAL SPACE

You will find plenty of places where you can eat and socialise. The Paul Woodhouse Centre offers two separate areas: a large refectory on the ground floor offering a wide range of delicious hot and cold food options, with a lot of table seating. On the first floor, in the Student Common Room, you will find more seating with a cafe offering sandwiches and snacks. The Varley Café, in the centre of the campus, offers another space to relax, with a good range of food and plentiful seating too.

## RECREATIONAL SPACE

We have fantastic sports facilities; a well-equipped gym, ample pitches (including a rugby pitch), tennis courts, the Mercers' Sports Hall, and the Nicholls Pavilion on the outer fields.



INDEPENDENT STUDY SPACES



RUGBY, FOOTBALL AND LACROSSE PITCHES



SCIENCE LABS



GYM



LANGUAGE LAB



VARLEY CAFE



CAREERS LIBRARY



SCIENCE LECTURE THEATRE



ASTROTURF PITCH

# HOW TO APPLY

TO PETER SYMONDS



01962 857555  
ADMISSIONS@PSC.AC.UK

## APPLY ONLINE AT WWW.PSC.AC.UK/APPLY FROM 13 SEPTEMBER UNTIL 13 DECEMBER 2021

We have tried to make applying to the College as simple as we can. All students are asked to apply via our online application system. Information entered is saved as you go, and you can check everything you have entered before you submit your application. A printable copy will be available for your records.

The application process for places in our Boarding Houses is different, please see pages 26/27 for more information.

If you are unable to apply online or need an alternative version of the application form, please contact the Admissions Team. We are always happy to answer any questions you may have regarding the application process: 01962 857555 or admissions@psc.ac.uk



Wing Lingthep  
Wildern School



We welcome applications from all eligible students before the application deadline. We aim to make your application journey smooth, informative and relaxed. The Admissions Team are always at the end of the telephone or an email if you have any queries throughout the process.

Students applying before the deadline will be invited to attend an admissions interview. This can be anytime between October 2021 and March 2022: a later interview will not affect your chance of being offered a place at the College.

A team of interviewers will attend our most local schools and interview the students in school; all other students will be asked to attend their interviews at the College. The interview will be informal: we will talk through your course choices, discuss our expectations of our students and chat about student life. The meeting is about advice and guidance rather than selection.



In order to be considered for an offer of a place, you must attend a guidance interview.

If you have been interviewed, you will receive an email to inform you of one of three outcomes:

1. You will be offered a place.
2. Your application will be put on a reserve list, which means that we are unable to guarantee a place.
3. No offer will be made.

Our offer criteria are set out in our Admissions Policy (available at [www.psc.ac.uk/applying](http://www.psc.ac.uk/applying)).

If you have been offered a place, you will be invited to a Welcome Day in June to experience a day at the College, attend lessons in your chosen subjects and attend Freshers' Fair to find out more about our Enrichment programme.

Application enquiries received after the deadline should be made via the Admissions Office. Late applications are generally added to a waiting list and are not considered until Easter.

# APPLICATION DIARY

FOR 2022 ENTRY

SOME OF THESE DATES MAY BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION.

“The College is so supportive but gives you the independence to work at your own pace. There are so many workshops for your subjects to go over any concepts you're unsure about.”

Natasha Ellis

28 & 29 JUN 2021  
Open Evenings  
5.30pm–8.30pm

13 SEP 2021  
Applications open for 2022 entry  
[www.psc.ac.uk/apply](http://www.psc.ac.uk/apply)

11 OCT 2021  
Hampshire Specialist Music Course virtual presentation  
6.00pm via Zoom

18 & 19 OCT 2021  
Open Evenings  
5.30pm–8.30pm

OCT 2021–MAR 2022  
Admission interviews

8 NOV 2021  
Boarding application deadline  
4pm

13 DEC 2021  
Application deadline  
4pm

JAN–MAR 2022  
Offers of places

FEB 2022  
Hampshire Specialist Music Course auditions

23 & 24 JUN 2022  
Welcome Days

25 AUG 2022  
GCSE results

31 AUG–2 SEP 2022  
Enrolment  
You will be allocated a two-hour time slot on one of these days. It is essential that you attend. When confirming course choices, priority will be given to students who are able to attend enrolment. We may not be able to confirm the preferred subjects of late enrollers.

31 AUG–2 SEP AND 6 SEP 2022  
Sports team trials  
Team trials are the only chance you have to try for a team place.

12 SEPT 2022  
First day at college



George Davey  
Testbourne School

Natasha Ellis  
The Clere School



# CHALLENGE YOURSELF

AT PETER SYMONDS



Peter Symonds offers many opportunities for students to stretch themselves intellectually, including taking part in Olympiads for Computing, Mathematics, Chemistry, Physics or Biology; and national competitions such as the Target 2.0 Bank of England Interest Rate Challenge, the Poetry by Heart competition, and the Cipher Challenge. We also support the Authentic Biology symposium, which enables students to carry out genuine academic research projects with the support and guidance of researchers from the University of Southampton.



## HE+ AND THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

The University of Cambridge has nominated Peter Symonds as the hub college for its HE+ Project in Hampshire. The HE+ Project is designed to encourage lower sixth students studying in state schools and colleges to apply to Cambridge and other top universities, as well as providing them with academic and application support.

The project sees over 500 sixth form students from a range of schools and colleges converge on Peter Symonds College for a series of enrichment sessions. The programme includes high level input from the College's own teachers and academics from the University of Cambridge, and offers students a real insight into university-style learning and the options available to them once they have completed their A Level studies. Students from Andover/Sparsholt College, Bay House, Bitterne Park School, Brockenhurst College, Itchen College, Oaklands Catholic School, Portsmouth College, HSDC Alton, HSDC Havant and South Downs, Ringwood, Richard Taunton College and St Anne's Catholic School & Sixth Form all participate in the scheme alongside students from Peter Symonds.

## OXBRIDGE SUPPORT

Early in L6, our Oxbridge Tutor invites students to enrol on our preparation programme. This includes a series of group sessions working with other like-minded students to develop the skills needed in order to make a competitive application. Information and advice is circulated via online classrooms and our Oxbridge intranet. Support is offered throughout the application process as students perfect their personal statements, prepare for entrance tests and practise answering challenging interview questions.

## SUPPORT FOR ENTRY TO COMPETITIVE DEGREE COURSES

Students wanting to apply for Medicine, Veterinary Medicine and Dentistry can access careers talks and specific help with completing their applications and preparing for interviews.

## MUSIC AND PERFORMANCE

Ensembles, orchestras, choirs and jazz and rock bands provide a wide variety of opportunities for talented musicians. Peter Symonds also hosts the Hampshire Specialist Music Course. Dance and drama productions showcase performing arts and other talents. Specific help is available to support applications for further study, including audition preparation.

## TALENTED SPORTS PERFORMERS

This scheme is aimed at supporting gifted students by helping them to manage their time and balance sporting, personal and academic demands. Our Talented Sports Mentors meet with these students regularly.

# EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION

AT PETER SYMONDS

## THE COURSE

The Extended Project Qualification is worth up to 28 UCAS points. This is the equivalent of half a full A Level. It is highly valued by universities. On their 'Informed Choices' website the Russell Group of universities discuss the benefits of undertaking an EPQ.

Some universities include it in their offers. For example, they might accept ABB (and an A in EPQ) instead of AAB. Even if it doesn't appear in offers, universities like to see it on application forms. Doing an EPQ can make you stand out as an applicant.

If you are going to be interviewed by a university or employer, you can talk about your EPQ and sometimes submit a sample of your work. You will be the expert on your EPQ topic and will be able to talk about it with confidence.



Molly Wedderburn  
Kings School

## THE WORK

Once you have had a chance to settle in to sixth form life, you will be offered the opportunity to undertake an EPQ as an additional qualification. All Peter Symonds College students are offered this opportunity. More and more students say that undertaking a project on a topic of their choice is one of the highlights of their time at the College.

If you choose EPQ, you will be timetabled with a supervisor who will guide you through your project journey. Learning Resource Centre staff offer specialist advice on research skills. Our own subject specialists are available to help with tricky questions.

## THE ASSESSMENT

You will be assessed on your planning, your project management skills, your report writing skills and your presentation skills; all skills that are highly valued by universities and employers.

You will also be assessed on your ability to find and analyse research sources and to reference appropriately; skills you will need at university.

If you complete a dissertation, you will have experience of producing a well-structured, extended piece of writing in response to a research question; something you will often be asked to do at university.

If you create an artefact, you will have experience of evidencing the research and development of an object or design in response to a particular brief; a skill set highly valued by employers.

## WHERE COULD IT TAKE ME?

The Extended Project Qualification prepares you for university, employment and life! You will learn planning skills, project management skills, report writing skills and presentation skills. You can choose the type of project you undertake.

Students planning to study academic subjects at university often complete a dissertation. For example, you might research treatments for a disease or causes of an economic problem or the evidence supporting government investment in particular technologies.

Students wishing to learn skills relevant to future employment often produce an artefact. For example, you might research how to design a building, how to build a robot or how to design a website to promote a particular business.



Eesaa Sadiq  
Embley School

# SUPPORT AND GUIDANCE

AT PETER SYMONDS

High levels of individual support contribute to the very low number of students leaving their courses early and the high proportion who achieve better-than-expected grades in their subjects.

Ofsted 2020

## 'COUNTING IN ONES'

At Peter Symonds College we take student support and guidance seriously. For us, counting in ones is a simple idea: that whenever we have contact with you, be it at an open evening, in an admissions interview, in a lesson, in a tutorial, or in a discussion after exam results day, we treat you as an individual and respond to your individual needs. This is at the heart of how we support you along your journey from the moment of application through to university, employment and beyond.

## PERSONAL TUTORS

Your Personal Tutor plays a key role in your life at college. Through both group and one-to-one tutorials, your Tutor will get to know you well, monitor your progress and attendance, support and guide you through your time at college and help you to decide on your future plans.

## LEAD TUTORS

Lead Tutors work with a team of Tutors and help them to support their tutor group. Students with complex problems or issues which take time to resolve are often referred to a Lead Tutor for support and guidance.



## SUBJECT WORKSHOPS

All subjects operate lunchtime workshops, which are available to all students. It might be that you are stuck and need some individual help with a piece of work, or you might want to join a revision session or investigate a topic in more depth. You will be required to attend some workshops to help you with your learning.

## STUDENT SERVICES

Our dedicated team provides a range of information, advice and support to ensure the wellbeing of students. This includes information about student finance and transport, as well as individual support to help guide students through their time at college.

## THE HUB

Part of the Student Services provision, The Hub promotes wellbeing and resilience and supports students with a range of emotional difficulties. This is via drop-in sessions as well as group and one-to-one support focusing on specific issues like anxiety and stress. Our therapy dogs visit The Hub regularly during the year and are very popular.



## COUNSELLING SERVICE

Our experienced Counsellors are available to support you if you have a complex problem, whether related to college life or not. Appointments are treated in the strictest confidence.

## LOOKED-AFTER CHILDREN AND CARE LEAVERS

If you are a looked-after child or care leaver, support is available to help you financially and personally. Please let us know on your application and we will discuss this support further with you at your interview.

## YOUNG CARERS

If you have caring responsibilities for a member of your family, please let us know in your application and we will discuss the support available to you in college via Student Services.

## SAFEGUARDING

We recognise that we play a key role in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of our students. Where we have concerns about an individual's safety or wellbeing, we will do our best to help and support, but there might be situations where we may need to pass our concerns onto the local Children's Services Department or the police or health services. As students are below the age of 18 when they join us we have a particular duty to make sure they feel and are safe while in our care.

The College also has a duty to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being radicalised and drawn into extremism, which is also treated as a safeguarding matter.

## EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

The College is fully committed in all of its functions and activities to eliminating unfair discrimination, to promoting equality of opportunity and fostering good relations between people of different groups, including groups characterised by age, disability (physical and mental health), gender, gender re-assignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief and sexual orientation.

We take active steps to promote equality of opportunity and celebrate diversity and will take action to prevent racial or sexual harassment, sexist or racist jokes and insults, bullying and any other form of intimidation or discrimination. We are committed to ensuring that disabled people (including those with medical conditions) are treated fairly. We will make reasonable adjustments to provision to ensure that anyone with a disability is not disadvantaged.

The College expects all students to show consideration and respect for others, in keeping with fundamental British values: democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect, and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs. These are also values shared by many throughout the world.

PETER SYMONDS COLLEGE WAS AWARDED THE SIXTH FORM COLLEGES ASSOCIATION AWARD FOR STUDENT SUPPORT.

## STUDENT SUPPORT FUND

Students from a low income household (under £30,000 approx), who have difficulty meeting the specific financial costs of attending college may be eligible for financial help from the 16-19 Bursary. This is a cash-limited fund, so payments will be targeted at supporting travel costs, books and equipment. Free College meals are also available for those who meet the eligibility criteria. Application forms and further information are available from Student Services.

## VULNERABLE STUDENT BURSARY

If you are a looked-after child, a care leaver or a student claiming Universal Credit in your own name, you will be eligible for the Vulnerable Student Bursary. This is a guaranteed sum of £1,200 per year, which we pay to most students in weekly instalments based on your attendance. Please speak to Student Services staff if you think you may be eligible.

## CHAPLAINCY

The chaplaincy service is open to students of all faiths or none. We have two chaplains who regularly call into the College to offer the opportunity for an informal chat and encourage inter-faith dialogue. There are also student-led groups and a quiet room for personal thought and reflection.

## CAREERS EDUCATION AND GUIDANCE

We have our own careers department with fully qualified, professional Careers Advisers. The College holds the Investor in Careers' 'Quality in Careers Standard', demonstrating the priority given to delivering high quality careers education, information, advice and guidance. Our Careers Advisers are on hand to provide one-to-one interviews, drop-in advice and job-seeking support.

We have an extensive range of information in our careers library including computer guidance packages, university prospectuses and job vacancies. Special events run by the department include employment and higher education events, a Careers Day and a Progression Fair.

With over 85% of students progressing on to higher or further education, great emphasis is placed on supporting and guiding students with their applications. A published version of the Careers Programme is accessible via the college website.



Teachers provide high levels of support for students outside of lessons. Students value the accessibility of drop-in workshops and the one-to-one support they receive.

Ofsted 2020

Grace Topp with therapy dog, Haatchi  
The Henry Beaufort School



# STUDY SUPPORT

AT PETER SYMONDS

We have a team of experienced staff who can individually discuss your specific needs and are available to support you during your time at college, located in College Centre. If you have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP), please share this information with us when completing your online application form.



**Michael Parsons**  
Grateley House

## STUDY SUPPORT TEAM

The department supports students with learning differences (SpLD), physical and sensory impairments and medical conditions. We have an experienced team of learning support assistants who provide in and out-of-class support, based on identified need. In addition, we have Specialist SpLD teachers/assessors who provide tailored individual teaching support and assessments for exam arrangements.

Although situated on a hilly campus, adaptations have made the College more accessible, ensuring all students can participate fully in college life.

The department provides quiet study space, in addition to the provision of specific equipment and specialist resources. Should you require temporary support, for example having broken a leg or arm, arrangements can be made for short-term provision of helpful equipment. Our college Nurse is also available during college hours for medical advice and emergency first aid.

Students with high needs develop the confidence and resilience to enable them to become more independent. As a result, they are as well prepared for progression to university or work as their peers.

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It is important that you tell us on your application form whether you will require any additional support, or whether you have had any access arrangements for exams at school; for example, extra time or the use of a word processor. It is also important that you keep the College updated should there be any changes in your needs.

If you would like to discuss any additional support needs, please contact our Study Support Team on 01962 857556 or email [studysupport@psc.ac.uk](mailto:studysupport@psc.ac.uk)

## ENGLISH AS AN ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE (EAL)

If English is not your first language you may be offered one-to-one teaching by an EAL teacher to improve your spoken and written English in your chosen subjects.

## STUDY SKILLS

Learning Advisers are available to help you develop your learning strategies. You are welcome to come along to daily study skills workshops or to make an individual appointment if you would like help with organising your work, managing your time, essay writing or revision.

**Emily Botwright**  
St Edmunds Salisbury

### Subjects

English Language  
Media Studies  
Sociology

### Activities

Sociology  
Documentaries



“The Study Support department have helped me prepare for the workload college offers. They’ve provided me with techniques for note taking and essay writing, all of which have helped me become a more independent studier.”

Emily Botwright

The department supports students with learning differences, physical and sensory impairments and medical conditions.



# SPORT

AT PETER SYMONDS

Sport is a key part of life at Peter Symonds. As a college, we have a long sporting history and regularly achieve success in league, cup, county and national competitions. Our broad range of sports, both competitive and recreational, provides a wide variety of opportunities to a huge number of our students.



Our competitive opportunities vary from sport to sport. Some squads have fixtures every week, whilst other teams are only involved in the AoC regional and national events.

With 39 sports teams covering 19 different sports, we have a phenomenal list of sporting achievements. Our successes, whether local, national or international, are regularly featured in the local media.

Follow the Peter Symonds College sports teams on Facebook: search 'Peter Symonds College Sports Teams'. We can also be found on Instagram and Twitter: @psc\_sportsteam.



**Emma Simpson**  
Thornden School

**Ryan Lai**  
Romsey School

**Georgia Taylor**  
Kings School

**Subjects**

Latin  
Mathematics  
Further Mathematics  
Physics

**Activities**

Women's Basketball  
Women's Lacrosse  
Entrepreneurship  
Class



“The best thing about Symonds’ Enrichment Programme is the variety of activities on offer and the opportunity to do something different every term.”

Georgia Taylor



Athletics and Cross Country

Badminton

Basketball: Men's and Women's

Cheerleading

Cricket

Football: Men's and Women's

Futsal

Golf

Hockey: Men's, Women's and Mixed

Karting

Netball

Rugby: Men's and Women's

Skiing

Squash

Swimming

Table Tennis

Tennis

Volleyball: Men's, Women's and Mixed

# ENRICHMENT PROGRAMME

AT PETER SYMONDS



The College provides an exciting enrichment programme, which is additional to your academic studies. Whether you want to further explore a current interest or are keen to challenge yourself with a new activity, there is something for everyone at Peter Symonds.

Some of the courses on offer are accredited and lead to a certificate, while others are purely for fun. Whatever you choose to do, you will gain a tremendous amount from getting involved and taking part. When you interview for higher education, training schemes or employment, you will need to demonstrate your wider achievements outside of your academic studies and exam results. Our enrichment programme provides an excellent opportunity to acquire those sought-after attributes such as leadership skills, breadth of experience, self-motivation and enthusiasm.

Managers and teachers provide students with a wide range of enrichment activities that broaden the knowledge and skills they acquire in the classroom.

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Tony Kang  
Fencing



Sam Saffron  
Magic Workshops



Isabella Richardson  
Yoga



Hameem Khan  
Future Medics



Katie Neve  
Music Theory

- Accredited courses include:
- Duke of Edinburgh's Award: Silver and Gold
  - Emergency First Aid at Work
  - ICM Level 2 Award in Psychology (RQF)
  - LAMDA Speaking in Public
  - Music Theory: Grade 5
  - Sports Leaders Award: Level 3
  - Supporting Teaching & Learning: Levels 2 & 3



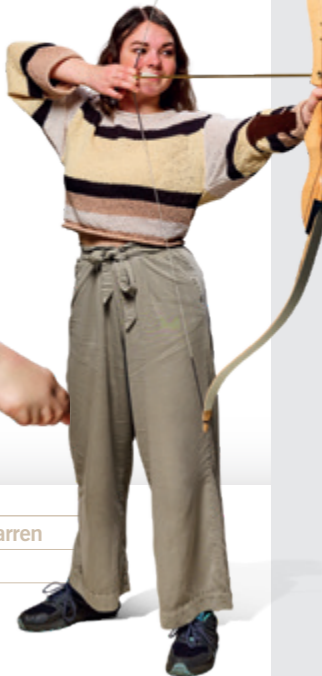
Philipp Nikolin  
LAMDA



Isaac Wright  
Emergency First Aid



Lily & Aeson  
Dance Team Challenge



Abbey Warren  
Archery

The enrichment programme is a compulsory requirement and an enrichment slot is added to every student's timetable. All enrichment courses are subject to a minimum number of students enrolling.

Further details of the enrichment programme can be found in our Enrichment magazine. Alternatively, please see the college website [www.psc.ac.uk/collegelife/activities](http://www.psc.ac.uk/collegelife/activities).

# BOARDING

AT PETER SYMONDS

Peter Symonds is the only state sixth form college in the UK to provide boarding accommodation and we aim to offer a unique and valuable experience. While providing a safe and supportive environment, we create a culture of high expectation in which all staff strive to motivate students to achieve to the best of their abilities.

Both our Boarding houses offer a warm, friendly environment where our focus is on preparing students for university or the workplace.

Our boarders are encouraged to be independent and resilient, whether it be managing their own study time, doing their own laundry or participating in the wider community.

Situated within walking distance of Winchester, providing access to a local leisure centre, shops, cafés and rail station, boarders at Peter Symonds are able to take advantage of excellent direct transport links to London and the beaches of the south coast.

Entertainment including bowling, ice skating, cinemas and shopping in Eastleigh, Southampton or Basingstoke are between just 10 and 20 minutes away.

Some boarders choose to go home or to their guardian at weekends, if they live locally.

## HOME FROM HOME

Our two co-educational boarding houses accommodate up to 79 boarders in total and each has a fully equipped kitchen, laundry room, HDMI TVs and Wi-Fi. Boarders have use of the Learning Resource Centre and IT Suite until 7.30pm from Monday to Thursday and 4.30pm on Friday, in addition to the dedicated computer and work rooms in both houses. The multi-gym and sports hall are available exclusively to boarders three nights a week, with various courses running at certain times of the year. 'Quiet time' is operated every weekday in both houses and boarders are encouraged to use this time to study.



We have a fantastic, dedicated catering team that provide nutritious, varied and delicious meals for our boarders to enjoy. Dietary requirements are easily catered for and we have a pre order menu service enabling boarders to select in advance from several options. At the weekends boarders can enjoy brunch and various themed nights are organised for boarders to enjoy.

Both houses are run by Residential House Parents and Day House Parents as well as a dedicated team of Assistant House Parents. All are first-aid trained and committed to providing an appropriate level of assistance and guidance to boarders in order for them to succeed and develop new skills. Boarding staff place the health and well-being of boarders at the centre of their practice.

Boarding is term-time only and the houses close for every College holiday, including an exeat which coincides with the May Day bank holiday. Boarders either return home or stay with their UK guardian.

## SCHOOL HOUSE

Situated in the heart of the campus, this is a Victorian house with large one, two and three bedded, high-ceilinged bedrooms and a comfortable common room, complete with pool table, computer console area and dining table.

## FALKLAND LODGE

This purpose-built, two-storey house stands at the edge of the campus overlooking the sports field. All the single and twin bedrooms are en-suite, with a central common room on the ground floor and four work/common rooms at the end of each corridor.

Both houses operate an electronic fob entry system. This informs staff which students are in or out of the house. Students are required to respect the boarding house routines as well as other safeguarding measures, as outlined in the boarding handbook.

Ethan Moran-Smith  
The Petersfield School

### Subjects

Mathematics  
Politics  
Criminology

### Activities

Team 19, 5-a-side  
football



“I like the areas for independent study and the campus environment. There are good facilities and good opportunities. Boarders benefit from lots of freedom around campus outside of college hours, and a great boarding community and events.”

Ethan Moran-Smith

## OUTSTANDING

In October 2018, Ofsted inspected our boarding houses and again graded us as 'Outstanding'. Inspectors noted that 'Boarders live in a supportive and inclusive community which enriches their experiences and positively influences their development. They feel valued and appreciate the opportunities to develop their independence and their confidence as they move forward to the next stage of their lives.' Inspectors also highlighted that 'The support given by staff applies to all aspects of boarders' lives. They recognise and respond effectively to boarders' individual needs. The well-being of boarders has a high priority.' Please read the full report at [www.psc.ac.uk/inspection](http://www.psc.ac.uk/inspection).

## APPLYING

If you are interested in applying for boarding, details can be found at [www.psc.ac.uk](http://www.psc.ac.uk) under the 'Applying' and 'Boarding' sections.

Boarding applications can be made online from 13 September 2021 and will close on 8 November 2021.

We will be arranging interviews for 22 October, 13, 16 and 20 November, and 14 December 2021, so we encourage you to keep at least one of these dates available.

At your interview you will have a tour of boarding facilities, an interview with the Head of Boarding and a College interview where you can discuss your course choices. Together these will enable you to see if studying and boarding at Peter Symonds is right for you.

We can only offer boarding places to students who are able to attend an interview, although attending an interview does not guarantee a place.

Fees for 2022/2023 will be £15,600 per year for School House and £16,800 per year for Falkland Lodge. A £1,500 non-refundable deposit will be required to secure a boarding place.

# YOUR COLLEGE DAY

AT PETER SYMONDS



Alex Tivey  
The Westgate School



The College day is very different from the school day most of you will have experienced. You are unlikely to be in class all day, every day. In fact, you will have a number of study periods built into your timetable, and how you spend this time is up to you. But remember, your management of these study periods will be key to your success. You are only required to be on campus for timetabled sessions, and regular independent study will be set in each subject. Your timetable doesn't show the amount of work you will be expected to do outside of lessons. To be successful we recommend that you spend at least as much time in private study as you spend in the classroom.

“There are so many opportunities at Symonds and so much support for finding out about and applying to universities, or any career path you wish to take.”

## CLASSROOM LESSONS

Typically you will have approximately 4–5 hours of lessons each week for each of the subjects you are studying. Each subject also holds a weekly optional lunchtime workshop session.

## INDEPENDENT STUDY

It is crucial that you take responsibility for your own learning outside the classroom and make use of the Learning Resource Centre (LRC) and Hopkins Study Area, along with subject workshops. Typically, the equivalent of 4–5 lessons per week of private study per subject will be needed.

## TUTORIAL GUIDANCE AND SUPPORT

With your Personal Tutor, your whole group tutor sessions are timetabled once a week and in addition tutors will see students individually for one to one tutorials on a regular basis.

## THE TUTORIAL AND LECTURE PROGRAMME

Our tutorial and lecture programme will support your personal development while you are at College. Developed in response to student feedback, the programme covers relevant, contemporary issues, with the aim of broadening your educational experience. The programme also provides careers education, including employment and higher education options and the UCAS application process.

## ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES

You will typically have one enrichment activity session per week. This is your chance to do something that you love, pursue a new interest, be active or extend your learning in one of your subjects.

# CHOOSING COURSES

AT PETER SYMONDS



Making the right choices for your advanced level study can be the key to your success and progression to university, apprenticeship or employment. We will make sure that you receive lots of advice and guidance tailored to you as an individual to help you make these choices. There are also things you can do for yourself to help you make informed choices, such as visiting our Open Evenings, carrying out research using our website and prospectus, and looking into careers you might be interested in pursuing in the future.

We offer a wide range of A Level and general vocational courses which can all be combined to form your study programme. Most students following an advanced level programme will take three courses during the two years they are with us.

## GRADE REQUIREMENTS

In order to study A Level courses you will need to have achieved the standard entry requirement of at least five GCSEs at grades 9–4 or equivalent, including Mathematics and English.

For some subjects there are additional grade requirements. These details can be found on the relevant course subject pages. Just look for the white roundel.



Martha Lowres  
The Henry Beaufort School

Dylan Blackman  
Winton Academy

ADDITIONAL  
GRADE REQUIREMENTS

# A LEVEL

LEVEL 3

As specialists in sixth form education we are able to offer you a wide range of advanced level courses – in almost any combination you can think of. You will get plenty of advice about choosing your courses from our excellent team of interviewers, and when you come to enrol with us following your GCSE results you will have another opportunity to discuss your choices with experienced staff and subject experts.



**Aidan Hayes**  
The Henry Beaufort School

**Anca Ardeleanu**  
The Vyne School



Our Open Evenings also provide a great opportunity to find out more by talking to teachers and current students.

Students are highly motivated and keen to learn.  
Ofsted 2020

# GENERAL VOCATIONAL COURSES

LEVEL 3

BTEC, Cambridge Technical, VTCT, and EDUQAS qualifications offer alternatives to A Level courses; they are valued and well-regarded by employers and higher education. They provide a practical, real-world approach to learning, without sacrificing any of the essentials. Much of the assessment is through coursework, taking away some of the pressure of exams, and allowing you to gauge your own performance on a continuing basis, as you might in a real workplace.

Our vocational courses are:  
Challenging and rewarding with a strong practical focus.

Well-taught by professional practitioners, with some opportunities for work placements.

Flexible and complementary to other Level 3 courses as part of a mixed learning programme.

Highly successful, with over two-thirds of students achieving high grades.

BTEC, Cambridge Technical, VTCT, and EDUQAS courses can be taken instead of, or alongside A Level qualifications and attract UCAS tariff points for university entrance in a similar way. The grading system for these qualifications is different, being graded Pass, Merit, Distinction, Distinction\* rather than A\*–E (see table below). The Level 3 Diplomas are graded the same as A Level: A\*–E. The EDUQAS & VTCT Diploma qualifications are graded the same as A Level: A\*–E.

	Equivalent to 1 A Level	Equivalent to 2 A Levels	Equivalent to 3 A Levels
Business	BTEC Extended Certificate	BTEC Diploma	–
Criminology	EDUQAS Level 3 Diploma	–	–
Digital Media	–	Cambridge Technical Diploma	–
Fashion, Theatre and Media Hair and Make Up Studies	VTCT Level 3 Diploma	–	–
Health and Social Care	Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate	Cambridge Technical Diploma	Cambridge Technical Extended Diploma
Information Technology	BTEC Extended Certificate	BTEC Diploma	–
Law	BTEC Extended Certificate	–	–
Medical Science	EDUQAS Level 3 Diploma	–	–
Music: Digital Music Production	BTEC Extended Certificate	–	–
Music: Popular Music Performance	BTEC Extended Certificate	–	–
Performance: Acting	BTEC Extended Certificate	–	–
Sport	BTEC Extended Certificate	BTEC Diploma	BTEC Extended Diploma

### UCAS TARIFF POINTS

A Level	BTEC/Cambridge Technical
A* = 56 points	Distinction* = 56 points
A = 48 points	Distinction = 48 points
C = 32 points	Merit = 32 points
E = 16 points	Pass = 16 points



SEE ALSO:

Art: Photography

Art: Textiles

Art: Three Dimensional Design

Graphic Communication

Product Design

# ART: FINE ART

AT PETER SYMONDS

## THE COURSE

The A Level Fine Art course provides you with the opportunity to experience drawing, painting, three-dimensional experimentation, printmaking and photography. Alongside this work, you will build up evidence of your critical awareness of the wider context of art, within culture, to inform your practical work.

## THE WORK

Through taught lessons, workshops and independent study you will be introduced to a variety of experiences exploring a range of art media, techniques and processes, and be made aware of both traditional methods and new technologies.

Trips to art exhibitions and museums are offered, including visits to London and New York.

Many students want to study two art subjects. We are able to accommodate this, as long as you are aware that you need to be well organised!

## THE ASSESSMENT

You will be assessed through two components of course work: personal investigation (60%); and an exam assignment comprising 15 hours (40%).



### WHERE COULD IT TAKE ME?

Fine Art A Level is the appropriate preparatory course for Art foundation and degree level courses at Art college and university. Career opportunities could be found in commercial art, graphic design, textiles, fashion, ceramics, interior and theatre design, architecture, photography, film animation and video, arts administration, conservation and restoration, teaching and art therapy.

### FURTHER STUDY

Art and Design  
Architecture  
Engineering  
Interior Design  
Art Foundation  
Ceramics

### CAREER IDEAS

Commercial art  
Sculpting  
Interior design  
Theatre design  
Architecture  
Animation  
Conservation  
Restoration



Scipio Attwater  
Winchester College

SEE ALSO:

Art: Fine Art

Art: Textiles

Art: Three Dimensional Design

Graphic Communication

Product Design

# ART: PHOTOGRAPHY

AT PETER SYMONDS

## THE COURSE

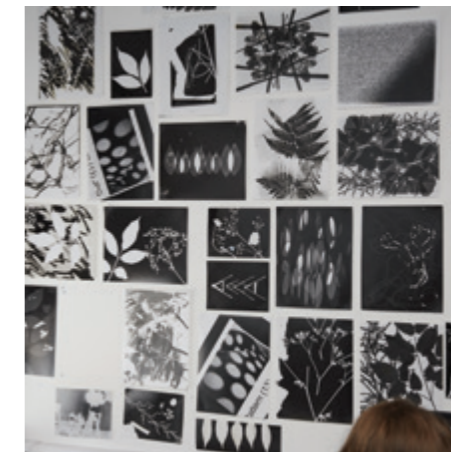
Photography A Level will help you develop the skills to observe and scrutinise the world around you and produce photographs that help to visualise the way you see the world. In an active, hands-on course, you will learn about fine art photography, how we communicate ideas through the photographic image and how to start projects that are personal to you or your interests. You will gain skills using camera equipment, using computer technology and manual techniques to manipulate your images. You will also look at a broad range of photographers, both classical and contemporary, whose work will help to inspire how you think about photography and create your own imagery.

As well as working digitally you will have access to our darkroom space to learn to use analogue film cameras as part of your creative process. Possibilities also exist for you to work with your images manually to further explore your ideas.

You will be encouraged to explore the connection between photography and other art media, including European and non-European examples. In the second year, you will continue your work in the same areas but in much greater depth, and with an increased level of complexity, sophistication and ambition.

## THE WORK

You will be introduced to a variety of techniques and processes that will help you think about how you can make thoughtful, meaningful images with purpose and intent. Students are supported to develop their own themes and projects throughout their time with us – we encourage students to find passion and direction in their own projects so that they can make work that is personal. Trips to art exhibitions and museums are offered including visits to London and New York. Many students want to study two art subjects. We are able to accommodate this, as long as you are aware that you need to be well organised!



## THE ASSESSMENT

You will be assessed through two components of course work: personal investigation (60%); and an exam assignment comprising 15 hours (40%).



### WHERE COULD IT TAKE ME?

The course will provide you with an excellent foundation for a career or further study in many creative media based industries. It is most common for successful students to continue to creative degree courses. The critical reflection skills learnt and practised throughout the course are applicable to a wide range of career pathways beyond the creative industries.

### FURTHER STUDY

Art  
Design  
Photography  
Radiography  
Surveying

### CAREER IDEAS

Fine art  
Curating  
Journalism  
Radiography  
Surveying  
Web design  
Graphic design  
Photography

SEE ALSO:

- Art: Fine Art
- Art: Photography
- Art: Three Dimensional Design
- Graphic Communication
- Product Design

# ART: TEXTILE DESIGN

AT PETER SYMONDS

## THE COURSE

The A Level Textile Design course is for those of you who have a love of art, fashion and textiles and want to explore your creativity. During the first year you will work on a set project encouraging exploration and experimentation with techniques, media and materials. These will include surface pattern and print design, constructed textiles, free machine embroidery, digital design, fashion and interior design, textile art and installation textiles. You will be encouraged to explore other artists' and designers' work, and look at historical and cultural influences worldwide, enabling you to build up evidence of critical and analytical study. You will also be expected to complete an exam project.

In the second year of the course you will develop your own interests and individual expertise through a bespoke project tailored to you. This allows you additional time to explore your ideas and create more ambitious garments or textile artworks, as you prefer. This will also include an exam project.

## THE WORK

You will be encouraged to explore relevant images, artefacts and resources relating to a range of art and design. Your responses will be shown through practical and critical activities which demonstrate your understanding of different styles, genres and traditions. Textiles is a practical course requiring enthusiasm and commitment. You will be expected to work at least five hours during independent study time per week, and homework is set and assessed regularly. Trips to textiles and art museums in London and New York are offered.

Many students want to study two art subjects. We are able to accommodate this, as long as you are aware that you need to be well organised!

## THE ASSESSMENT

You will be assessed through two components of course work: personal investigation (60%); and an exam assignment comprising 15 hours (40%).



**Yolanda Parkes**  
The Henry Beaufort School



**Luci Harris**  
Mountbatten School

**Subjects**

- Law
- Mathematics
- Textiles

**Activities**

- Mindful Colouring
- Gym



“The range of topics to focus on in Textile Design is very wide and you can choose the one best suited to you, which ensures your work is the best it can be.”  
Luci Harris

**WHERE COULD IT TAKE ME?**

Textile Design is the appropriate preparatory course for Art foundation and degree level courses. It will give you the opportunity to build a portfolio of creative work.

**FURTHER STUDY**

- Fashion
- Printed Textiles
- Constructed Textiles
- Textile Art

**CAREER IDEAS**

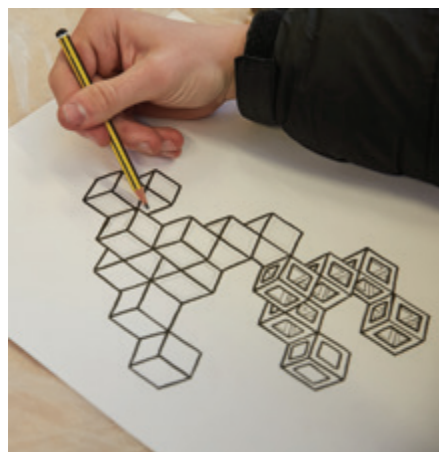
- Textile design
- Fashion design
- Interior design
- Costume design
- Jewellery design
- Industrial design
- Trend prediction
- Marketing/PR
- Merchandising

SEE ALSO:

- Art: Fine Art
- Art: Photography
- Art: Textiles
- Graphic Communication
- Product Design

# ART: THREE-DIMENSIONAL DESIGN

AT PETER SYMONDS



## THE COURSE

**Year 1:** You will explore relevant images, artefacts and resources relating to a range of art and design from the past and from recent times, including European and non-European examples. Your responses to these examples will be shown through practical and critical activities which demonstrate your understanding of different styles, genres and traditions.

**Year 2:** You will specialise in one or more of the practical areas covered in your first year, and develop your own interests and individual expertise.



## THE WORK

A Level Three-Dimensional Design is a practical course requiring enthusiasm and commitment. You are expected to work at least five hours during independent study time per week, and homework is regularly set and assessed. Trips to specific sculpture sites and 3D design museums are offered, including visits to London and New York.

Many students want to study two art subjects. We are able to accommodate this, as long as you are aware that you need to be well organised!

## THE ASSESSMENT

You will be assessed through two components of course work: personal investigation (60%); and an exam assignment comprising 15 hours (40%).



Quinn Dines  
The Henry Beaufort School

Abi Brookes  
The Henry Beaufort School

**Subjects**  
Geography  
Maths  
Three-Dimensional Design

**Activities**  
Christian Union



“I really like being able to use different materials and explore new, complex ideas. I also really like the sense of community in the class – smaller classes mean that we all form positive, constructive relationships.”

Abi Brookes

## WHERE COULD IT TAKE ME?

This course is ideal if you wish to build a portfolio in preparation for Art and Design, Architecture, Engineering or Interior Design degree courses, or to progress to Art Foundation.

## FURTHER STUDY

- Art and Design
- Architecture
- Engineering
- Interior Design
- Theatre Design
- Art Foundation
- Ceramics

## CAREER IDEAS

- Commercial art
- Sculpting
- Interior design
- Architecture
- Animation
- Arts administration
- Conservation
- Restoration
- Art therapy

SEE ALSO:

- Chemistry
- Health and Social Care
- Medical Science

# BIOLOGY

AT PETER SYMONDS

## ADDITIONAL GRADE REQUIREMENTS

Grades 6,6,5 or above in any combination of Maths and Science GCSEs, one of which must be Biology.

## THE COURSE

This course studies the science of life and includes the study of all major human body systems, comparing them to a range of other organisms.

In the first term you will study the structure and function of cells and biological molecules, including DNA. This will underpin your understanding of the rest of the course.

In the second term you will carry out a detailed investigation of the human circulation, gas exchange, digestive and nervous systems, and excretion.

In addition, at the end of the first year you will get the opportunity to do a 5-week programme of study on one of the three following options:

- Immunology and Disease
- Human Musculoskeletal Anatomy
- Neurobiology and Behaviour

In the second year you will study ecology and conservation, including some fieldwork, followed by microbiology, respiration and photosynthesis.

You will study how cells divide and how DNA controls the cell. You will also look briefly at the diversity of life on earth.

Finally, you will investigate the human reproductive system before moving on to plant reproduction, genetics, evolution and the application of genetics (genetic engineering and fingerprinting).

Support is available every day from a drop-in workshop facility where students come for help with independent work or with understanding a tricky topic. There is extra support available for students applying for courses in high demand such as medicine, veterinary science and dentistry. Around 60 college students gain entry to these university courses each year.

## THE WORK

Lessons involve group work, applying facts that you have researched, and explanation of complex topics by your teacher. You will be provided with a 'support booklet' for each component. You will complete weekly independent work, usually a mixture of research and questions from past exam papers.

Most weeks there is a practical session, either in the form of an experiment, microscope work or occasional dissections.

All students have the opportunity to take part in a wide range of extra activities. These include:

- Future Medics
- Biology Club
- Biology Olympiad
- Research Club
- Large Animal Handling course in association with Sparsholt College

## THE ASSESSMENT

At the end of the second year there are three two-hour exams leading to the A Level qualification. Students record their practical work, which receives endorsement but does not contribute to their grade.

“There are many extra opportunities and things you can do if you need extra help, and the environment is always welcoming.”

Jasmine Kang



Jasmine Kang  
Mountbatten School

Noel Ifejika  
The Westgate School

## Subjects

- Biology
- English Literature
- Psychology

## Activities

- Football Team



“I’ve enjoyed learning the most efficient way to study for myself, and with Biology I like that you’re learning something new constantly.”

Noel Ifejika



## WHERE COULD IT TAKE ME?

Biology can lead to a career in an enormous variety of areas including medicine, dentistry, midwifery, nursing, radiography, physiotherapy, pharmacy and other biomedical and healthcare vocations. It can also provide the foundation for the many purely scientific branches of the biological sciences such as physiology or pharmacology, or more applied fields such as environmental science, food technology, sport science or forensics. Biology is an essential entry requirement for veterinary medicine or marine biology.

## FURTHER STUDY

- Biology
- Biomedical Sciences
- Marine Biology
- Medicine
- Nursing
- Pharmacy
- Forensics
- Food Technology
- Sport Science

## CAREER IDEAS

- Medicine
- Dentistry
- Midwifery
- Nursing
- Radiography
- Physiotherapy
- Pharmacy
- Veterinary

SEE ALSO:

- Economics
- Mathematics
- Mathematics: Statistics

# BUSINESS

AT PETER SYMONDS



## THE COURSE

Business enables you to learn about the world around you. Current affairs such as Brexit, globalisation and innovation are just some of the topics we cover to engage and inspire you. This stands you in good stead to go on and study business-related courses at university or take up apprenticeship opportunities in relevant organisations. College-wide, student evaluations show that 91% of our students find the course stimulating and interesting, and 95% are glad they chose this subject.

**Year 1:** What is business? Management, leadership and decision-making; decision-making to improve marketing, financial, operational and human resource performance.

**Year 2:** Analysing the strategic position of a business; choosing strategic direction; and strategic methods – how to pursue strategies and manage strategic change.

## THE WORK

We are a well-resourced department and we provide ten workbooks tailored specifically to the AQA course including activities, exam practice and real-world examples. Business lessons feature a range of activities, for example, note-taking, questioning, video clips and group work. Homework is regularly set and focuses on developing exam technique.

## THE ASSESSMENT

The A Level assessment is based on three written papers taken at the end of the second year. These papers include multiple choice, short answers, data response and essay-style questions.

## WHERE COULD IT TAKE ME?

You will develop skills and knowledge very relevant to the modern world so this A Level is worth pursuing for its own sake. It is a useful qualification whether you are hoping to go directly into employment or aiming to go onto higher education. Many employers like future employees to have studied business as it makes them more immediately employable. In addition, other degree subjects can also draw upon a knowledge of business.

## FURTHER STUDY

- Business
- Accountancy
- Economics
- E-business and Commerce
- Marketing
- Finance and Banking

## CAREER IDEAS

- Business administration/management
- Accountancy
- Economist
- Marketing
- Business analysis
- Entrepreneur
- Logistics



**Joe Field**  
Wyvern School

SEE ALSO:

- Mathematics
- Economics
- Mathematics: Statistics

# BUSINESS

AT PETER SYMONDS



## THE COURSE

There are two routes of study for BTEC Business – the Extended Certificate (equivalent to one A Level) and the Diploma (equivalent to two A Levels). Depending on which course you choose, the units will be selected from mandatory units and optional units taught over a two year period.

**The Extended Certificate** is a two year course and consists of four units: three mandatory and one optional unit, and is equivalent to one A Level. The mandatory units include:

- Exploring Business
- Developing a Marketing Campaign
- Personal and Business Finance
- Plus one optional unit

**The Diploma** is a two year programme and comprises eight units: six mandatory units and two optional units, and is equivalent to two A Levels.

The Diploma will include the mandatory units of the Extended Certificate but will also include:

- Managing an Event
- International Business
- Principles of Management
- Plus two optional units

## WHERE COULD IT TAKE ME?

Higher education establishments and industry both recognise the BTEC in Business. The course is suitable for those who have a keen interest in following a career in the wide field of business and who wish to embark directly into employment or an apprenticeship after completing the award, as well as those who wish to study at university.

## THE WORK

Due to the diverse nature of the course, a wide variety of teaching and learning styles will be utilised by teachers including group work, presentations and individual assignments. You may research topics and present the results in numerous ways other than as written text; often applying your research, skills and knowledge to specific work-related contexts and case studies. Where appropriate, group interaction can often play a part; for example, through teamwork and role-play you will work collaboratively on certain key parts of your studies, just as you would in the workplace. In many parts of your programme of study you will learn in an applied and practical way.

## THE ASSESSMENT

For the Extended Certificate two assignments are set and marked internally; one is an assignment task set and marked externally; and one is a written exam.

For the Diploma, five assignments are set and marked internally; two assignment tasks are set and marked externally; and one is a written exam.

## FURTHER STUDY

- Business
- Accountancy
- Economics
- E-business and Commerce
- Marketing
- Finance and Banking

## CAREER IDEAS

- Business administration/management
- Accountancy
- Economist
- Marketing
- Business analysis
- Entrepreneur
- Logistics



**Charlotte Olive**  
Swanmore College

SEE ALSO:

- Biology
- Health and Social Care
- Mathematics
- Physics

# CHEMISTRY

AT PETER SYMONDS

## ADDITIONAL GRADE REQUIREMENTS

Grades 7,6,6 or above in Maths and two single sciences including Chemistry; or Maths and Combined Science.

## THE COURSE

Chemistry is the study of substances: how they react and what they are made of. Everything you see around you involves chemistry in some way!

**Year 1:** Builds on GCSE material such as atomic structure, electron configurations, bonding and reaction rates, but in more depth. You learn how to calculate energy changes in reactions, and concentration of solutions in titrations. You use your knowledge of precipitation reactions to identify inorganic unknowns. You also learn some completely new ideas, such as carrying out organic synthesis and how to use infrared spectroscopy and mass spectrometry to analyse unknown chemicals.

**Year 2:** Includes study of weak acids, buffers and how to calculate the pH of solutions. The hugely important concept of entropy is introduced, including how free-energy changes determine which reactions are feasible or not.

An in-depth study of redox, electrode potentials helps you understand how batteries and fuel cells work, and how to do redox titrations. Transition metal properties and reactions are also explained, including the formation of brightly-coloured complexions.

You learn to plan and carry out multi-step organic syntheses, as done by professional chemists searching for new compounds to be used in medicines, etc. You will also find how the power of advanced analytical techniques, such as 'GC-MS' and 'NMR', are used to detect 'drugs cheats' in sport and to identify unknown organic compounds.

## THE WORK

A combination of theory, question practice and frequent practical work will form the bulk of classwork. There will also be opportunities for model-making and group work. Weekly homework includes past exam questions, note-making, reading and revision. A large part of work delivered is accessible to you via the Intranet, which also has links to website resources and video clips.

In addition to timetabled lessons, workshops are offered every day, when teachers and student helpers are available to give individual help. Extension activities are also provided, and every year a number of students take part in the Chemistry Olympiad.

## THE ASSESSMENT

Assessment is by means of examination. Students record their practical work which receives endorsement but does not contribute to the grade.



Natalie Woodward  
Bitterne Park School

## WHERE COULD IT TAKE ME?

Chemistry A Level is essential for students wishing to take a degree in Medicine, Chemistry, Pharmacy, Dentistry, Biochemistry, Veterinary Science and Chemical Engineering. It is also useful for many other degrees including Oceanography and Geology. You will almost certainly need a grade A or A\* to study Medicine, Veterinary Science or other highly competitive courses. Chemistry is often considered the 'central science', as it strongly overlaps with both biochemistry and materials science.

## FURTHER STUDY

- Medicine
- Chemistry
- Pharmacy
- Dentistry
- Biochemistry
- Chemical Engineering
- Oceanography
- Geology
- Veterinary Science

## CAREER IDEAS

- Medicine
- Pharmaceutical
- Dentistry
- Chemical engineering
- Oceanography
- Geology
- Veterinary medicine

SEE ALSO:

- History
- Latin

# CLASSICAL CIVILISATION

AT PETER SYMONDS

## THE COURSE

This course involves the study of various topics from the worlds of ancient Greece and ancient Rome.

**Year 1:** You will study Homer's Odyssey, a magical tale of intrepid travel and gruesome revenge – you'll meet the Cyclops and the Sirens, and follow our hero Odysseus as he takes savage revenge on his wife's unwelcome suitors. You will also look at aspects of Greek art – the sculptors who first breathed life into marble and bronze, the architects who created the buildings which are instantly recognisable today and the painters who adorned their pots with scenes from mythology and everyday life.

**Year 2:** You will tackle Virgil's Aeneid, another ripping adventure, but also one of the world's earliest examples of political propaganda. You will see how our hero Aeneas led the survivors of the fall of Troy to their promised land, through wars and failed love affairs, to overcome the unwelcome attention of the Queen of the Gods and to set in motion what would one day become Rome. You will also delve into the devious politics of the Late Roman Republic, the story of how four centuries of aristocratic government was brought to its knees by a charismatic general who saw the potential of harnessing the might of the army and the common people – or more simply, how a guy called Julius Caesar didn't quite become the first emperor of Rome.

## THE WORK

For each component you will study a series of texts in translation, together with other artefacts, and be supported by a selection of directly relevant background material. You will be encouraged to take part in group discussions and put yourselves into the sandals of the characters you meet. You will enjoy regular quizzes and short answer tests, as well as being taken gently through the techniques needed to master the types of questions you will be expected to tackle in the exams. In short, you will experience the best kept secret at Peter Symonds.

## THE ASSESSMENT

You will be assessed through three externally-set exams.



Kaiyan Patel  
Noadswood School



## WHERE COULD IT TAKE ME?

Classical Civilisation is seen as a demanding subject both by university admissions tutors and employers. It could also be the most enjoyable subject you didn't know you wanted to do.

## FURTHER STUDY

- Classics
- Law
- History
- Sociology
- Philosophy
- Business
- Economics

## CAREER IDEAS

- Historian/archivist
- Archaeology
- Museum curation
- Heritage management
- Lecturing
- Journalism/editing
- Barrister/solicitor
- Accountant

SEE ALSO:

Information  
Technology

# COMPUTER SCIENCE

AT PETER SYMONDS

## ADDITIONAL GRADE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 6 or above in Maths GCSE. If Grade 5 is achieved in Maths then Grade 5 or above in Computer Science will also be required.



## THE COURSE

If you study Computer Science you will be part of an exciting future: an information processing revolution. Computer Scientists are concerned with the most appropriate representation of data in patterns of symbols, and the instructions that transform this data into new forms of information. Real-world behaviour is abstracted (built into models) then actioned, and with the data that has been abstracted is described by algorithms and thus automated to solve problems.

Essentially, Computer Science is a problem-solving subject. You are taught the fundamentals of programming, data structures, algorithms and their efficiency (making algorithms run quickly while taking up minimal resources), and the limits of computation. The Procedural, Object-Oriented and Functional styles of programming are compared, and experience of programming in all these styles is taught.

You will also learn about computing devices; how data is represented and communicated between devices; and the logic circuits that enable computing devices to perform operations and to store information. Other areas studied include networking, databases, Big Data and the moral, legal, social and ethical consequences of Uses of Computing in, for example, the development of autonomous cars.

## WHERE COULD IT TAKE ME?

The course provides an excellent foundation for any computer science-related degree courses, such as artificial intelligence, games design, networks and software engineering. Computing personnel are required in many industries, but also specialist areas such as botany and biology, space and aeronautics, national defence, sports equipment, computer game design, transport and travel, modern media, social networking, medicine and medical research.

Jake Hallam  
Thornden School

## THE WORK

Programming is a significant part of the course. You will be taught programming initially using a command line interface. Object-oriented programming will be introduced, including inheritance, polymorphism, aggregation and composition as well as design principles such as 'program to interfaces not implementation'. Discussions and group work will be included in lessons, as well as theory questions and programming.

## THE ASSESSMENT

At the end of the second year there are two 2½ hour externally assessed exams. At the end of the first year and into the second, you will complete a project: you will design, program and evaluate a computer system that solves a problem of your choice and which fulfils the requirements of the exam board. The project is internally assessed and externally moderated. The exams constitute 80% of your A Level and the project 20%.

## FURTHER STUDY

Computer Science  
Networking  
Software Engineering  
Games Design  
Artificial Intelligence  
Engineering  
Business Management  
Information Technology

## CAREER IDEAS

Software/website development  
Games design  
Systems management  
Database/network administration  
Multimedia programming  
IT consultancy

SEE ALSO:

Psychology  
Sociology

# CRIMINOLOGY

AT PETER SYMONDS



## THE COURSE

Criminology is a qualification which includes elements of psychology, law and sociology. The course aims to develop knowledge and understanding of the criminal justice system and an awareness of the different types of crime, as well as exploring criminal behaviour and theories suggesting why people commit crime.

The course consists of four units:

### Year 1

**Changing Awareness of Crime:** This unit focuses on building your understanding of the different types of crime, and the things that influence how we perceive crime. You will also examine the reasons why certain types of crime are less likely to be reported to the police.

**Criminological Theories:** You will look at how we define crime and what constitutes criminal behaviour. You will also look at the fundamental question of why people commit crime, drawing on biological, psychological and sociological theories. You will then examine how these theories may have influenced social policy in relation to crime.



Emily Shaw  
Toynbee School

## WHERE COULD IT TAKE ME?

You will develop a range of transferable skills including independent research, problem solving and presentation skills. This course will support access to higher education degree courses across a wide range of subjects, but in particular: Criminology, Sociology, Psychology and Law. The study of Criminology will also equip you with a good grounding in the knowledge and understanding required to go on to employment in the criminal justice system, including the probation service, policing and the courts/tribunals service.

### Year 2

**Crime Scene to Courtroom:** This unit will develop your understanding of the criminal justice system from the moment a crime has been identified to the verdict in the courtroom. You will look at the complex processes involved in investigating and prosecuting crimes, and you will review real criminal cases.

**Crime and Punishment:** You will address questions such as: Why do most of us obey the law even when it is against our own interests? What happens to those who break the law? Why do we punish people? How do we punish people?

## THE WORK

Teaching and learning methods include teacher-led discussions, debates, independent and collaborative research and presentation tasks, group work and interactive IT-based tasks and quizzes. Your learning will be further enhanced through trips and visits and talks from visiting speakers involved in the criminal justice system.

## THE ASSESSMENT

50% of the assessment is through externally-marked exams, and 50% through internally-marked controlled assessments. The internal assessments are 8 hours long, across 2 days.

## FURTHER STUDY

Criminology  
Law  
Sociology  
Psychology  
Media  
Politics  
Social Anthropology

## CAREER IDEAS

Police officer  
Prison officer  
Probation officer  
Social worker  
Youth worker  
Crime analyst  
Forensic scientist  
Local government officer

A LEVEL  
LEVEL 3

SEE ALSO:

Drama and Theatre

Performance:  
Acting

# DANCE

AT PETER SYMONDS

## ADDITIONAL GRADE REQUIREMENTS

Prior experience in Ballet or Contemporary dance.

## THE COURSE

Dance A Level actively engages students in a variety of dance genres and styles. Through development of physical, technical and expressive skills, you will be able to communicate choreographic intention and develop your individual qualities as a performer.

You will be encouraged to become independent learners as well as critical and reflective thinkers in all your areas of study.

You will develop a critical appreciation of dance in physical, artistic, aesthetic and cultural contexts while improving your resilience within our high-specification dance studio. You will have opportunities to work with professional companies and choreographers.

## THE WORK

The course allows you to focus on advanced contemporary technique classes. You will have the opportunity to take part in practical lessons of mixed genres, as well as choreographic workshops. You will learn to analyse performed dance works, learn professional repertoires and workshop routines with industry dancers. There will be many opportunities to attend trips and performance opportunities in and outside of college.

## THE ASSESSMENT

### Component 1:

Performance and choreography, practical exam (50%).

Solo performance linked to a specific practitioner within an area of study.

Performance in a quartet (in any style, relevant to the defined genres set by the exam board).

Group choreography.

### Component 2:

Critical engagement, 2.5 hour written exam (50%).

Knowledge, understanding and critical appreciation of a compulsory set work: Rooster by Christopher Bruce – and its location within a corresponding area of study (Rambert Dance Company).

Knowledge, understanding and critical appreciation of one optional set work: Sutra by Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui – and its location within the contemporary dance scene.



Sam East

The Henry Beaufort School



Toula Raftopoulou

Romsey School

“I love sharing ideas when doing group work as it is exciting to see the dance piece develop in a creative way.”

Toula Raftopoulou

Charlotte  
Farrell-Poulton  
King Edward IV  
School

Subjects  
Dance  
English Literature  
Media Studies

Activities  
PSC Volunteers



“Dance at Symonds is fun and challenging! I have learnt about lots of new styles and practitioners which has made me more versatile as a dancer. Dance has made me more critical in my thinking and writing which has helped my other subjects too.”

Charlotte Farrell-Poulton

## WHERE COULD IT TAKE ME?

Many of our students go on to study Dance in vocational conservatoires such as Trinity Laban, Laines, London Studio Centre, Bird, Performers and Masters, as well as universities including Roehampton, Chichester, Winchester and Liverpool John Moores. A Level Dance is also useful for many other subjects at university, such as Physiotherapy, Primary Education, Occupational Therapy, Mathematics, Performing Arts, Physical Education and Medicine.

## FURTHER STUDY

Dance  
Performing Arts  
Teaching  
Music and Dance  
Drama and Dance  
Media and Performing Arts

## CAREER IDEAS

Dance  
Theatre  
Choreography  
Yoga/pilates  
Physiotherapy  
Performing arts  
Teaching  
Physical therapy



SEE ALSO:

- Dance
- Performance: Acting

# DRAMA AND THEATRE

AT PETER SYMONDS



## THE COURSE

This course provides an opportunity to study drama and theatre as a single subject, extending individual acting and design skills and developing the ability to analyse all aspects of theatre. You will work in specialist facilities, be involved in a wide range of tasks and take part in a variety of workshops, developing expressive skills. Using a range of texts from different periods, you will explore plays from an academic and a practical perspective.

## THE WORK

You will need to have a real commitment to the study of theatre. Lessons are creative and varied, and activities include the study and analysis of live theatre and of plays, which you will also explore practically. Lesson rehearsals for your practical exams involve the freedom to experiment, perform texts and devise your own original work. You can choose to be assessed on a number of skills including acting or design. Popular lesson projects include our filmmaking activity, where you will create a short film about your chosen play extract and playwright in a documentary style. You will have the opportunity to work with professional theatre companies.

You will explore the many layers of theatre which, when combined, lead to imaginative work and create mood and atmosphere. There are many enrichment opportunities, including a cultural residential theatre trip to Paris and visits to see many exciting and innovative live theatre productions. Drama students play a pivotal role in directing and performing in the resident theatre company, A Company of Fools, producing a performance in December. This provides an excellent opportunity to enhance your theatrical development in all areas.

It is important to highlight that you may encounter adult content and mature themes both in classroom study and as part of the compulsory live theatre visits.

## THE ASSESSMENT

You will produce a combination of practical performance and written coursework across both year one and year two which is worth 60% of the overall qualification. The external written exam paper is worth 40% of the final grade.

“The passion that all the teachers at Symonds have has really inspired me within my work.”

Livvie Lawrence



Livvie Lawrence  
Godolphin School



Matt Effer  
Brighton Hill  
Community School

Subjects  
Drama and Theatre  
English Language  
History

Activities  
Level 2 Supporting  
Teaching and Learning



“A Level Drama is unlike any other subject; you get to practically explore many different fascinating texts and apply your own creativity to your own devised pieces.”

Matthew Effer

## WHERE COULD IT TAKE ME?

The study of Drama and Theatre leads to many exciting future careers. Currently, ex-students are lecturing at top universities, as well as pursuing careers as professional actors or in film production and journalism.

## FURTHER STUDY

- Performing Arts
- Drama and Cinematics
- Drama and Dance
- Acting

## CAREER IDEAS

- Acting
- Directing
- Drama therapy
- Stage management
- Teaching
- Singing

SEE ALSO:

Mathematics

Further  
Mathematics

Mathematics:  
Statistics

# ECONOMICS

AT PETER SYMONDS

ADDITIONAL  
GRADE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 6 or above in  
Maths GCSE.



## THE COURSE

Economics lessons often involve discussions around current issues in the news. Theories are constructed to help our understanding of markets and economies. You will study both microeconomics and macroeconomics during each year of the course. Microeconomics is the study of individual markets and the behaviour of consumers and producers. Macroeconomics is the study of the economy as a whole, including inflation, unemployment, economic growth and international trade.

**Year 1:** In microeconomics you will consider questions such as: How do consumers make decisions? Why have food prices risen? Should governments provide free health care and education? In macroeconomics you will consider questions such as: Why has unemployment fallen? Should the Bank of England increase interest rates? What is the effect of a change in the value of the pound?

**Year 2:** In microeconomics you will explore new topics such as business economics and the labour market. This includes theoretical analysis of how firms set prices, and arguments for and against raising the minimum wage. In macroeconomics there is a greater emphasis on international trade and development. This will include topics such as: What are the economic

effects of leaving the EU? Should there be free trade? Why is Africa less developed than China? What are the causes of inequality and poverty?

## THE WORK

A variety of teaching methods are used in lessons, including class discussions, group-work activities, and IT-based lessons. You will also be required to research independently and give presentations to your classmates. Sometimes, simulations or games are used to explain how markets work. However, Economics is a challenging, theoretical subject and many of the classroom activities will require a high degree of teacher explanation. You will be given course companions in which you are encouraged to make notes and complete exercises. You will be expected to complete a variety of homework tasks including data response questions, essays, independent research and further reading.

## THE ASSESSMENT

In the exams at the end of the second year, you will be assessed using a combination of multiple choice, short answer, data response and essay questions. Marks are awarded for knowledge, application, analysis and evaluation.

### WHERE COULD IT TAKE ME?

Economics is a subject that is well-respected by both employers and top universities. A very high proportion of A Level Economics students go on to study at university; many of them achieving places at top institutions such as Oxford, Cambridge and other Russell Group universities. They choose a wide variety of courses but around 30% of them choose to study Economics as part of their degree. Economics at degree level can lead on to many careers in business, finance and politics.

### FURTHER STUDY

Economics

Business

Accounting,  
Economics and  
Finance

Surveying

Politics

Mathematics

Statistics

### CAREER IDEAS

Accountancy

Market research

Data analyst

Economist

Stockbroking

Banking

Politics

Quantity surveying

SEE ALSO:

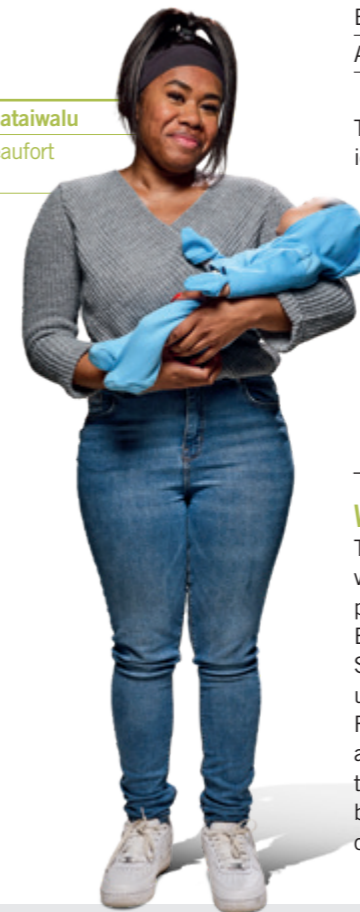
Health and  
Social Care

# EDUCATION AND CHILDCARE

AT PETER SYMONDS



Debbie Niumataiwalu  
The Henry Beaufort  
School



## THE COURSE

T Levels are two-year technical courses which are equivalent to three A Levels and therefore students will not study any other courses alongside the T Level course. They combine classroom theory, practical learning and an industry placement. The T Level has been developed in collaboration with employers and businesses so that the content will meet the needs of industry and prepare students for work and higher level study.

This two year course is designed for students wanting to work with babies and children aged up to eleven, depending on the occupational specialism you choose:

Early Years (0–5 years old) or

Assisting Teachers (5–16 years old).

This qualification carries UCAS points, and is ideal for students wanting to become Primary School Teachers or Early Years Practitioners.

This qualification provides a 'licence to practise' for those who choose to specialise in Early Years, increasing your value to employers.

### WHERE COULD IT TAKE ME?

This qualification will enable you to work in a variety of childcare and school settings, and progression could be to employment as an Early Years Practitioner or Teaching Assistant. Successful students who wish to gain a university qualification can progress to our Foundation degree in Early Years or Teaching and Learning Support. They can then top-up to a full BA (Hons) degree. These courses can be studied alongside employment, or you can choose to study full time at university.

### Potential modules include:\*

Child Development

Supporting Education

Safeguarding, Health & Safety and Wellbeing

Behaviour

Observation and Assessment

Equality and Diversity

Special Educational Needs and Disability

Reflective Practice

\*Please note these may be subject to change

## THE WORK

You will be required to attend College for theory lessons and practical activities. Alongside this, you will be expected to attend an industry placement in a variety of settings. The College will help you find a suitable placement, which will include different age ranges depending on your occupational specialism.

## THE ASSESSMENT

The assessment will include two exams (2 hours each), an employer based project completed under controlled conditions, observations of practice in an industry placement and assignments focusing on industry placements.

### FURTHER STUDY

Early Childhood  
Studies

Teacher Training

Social Work

Degree courses in:

Early Years

Teaching and Learning

Inclusive and Special  
Education

### CAREER IDEAS

Primary school  
teaching

Child care

Support work

Social/youth work

Special needs

Child psychology

Speech therapy

SEE ALSO:

English Language and Literature  
English Literature

# ENGLISH LANGUAGE

AT PETER SYMONDS



## THE COURSE

English Language is a social science subject that trains you to become a skilled analyst of language use. This will initially involve learning the many ways in which linguists analyse a range of texts (such as written, spoken and electronic) by applying terminology and theory. This will often involve comparison of the different messages that texts can create for audiences.

The study of child language acquisition will allow for exploration of how children learn English.

Analysis of spoken language will lead on to consideration of how gender, occupation, region and ethnicity affect speakers' use of English. How written texts also represent such groups will be considered. Language change will cover how English came about and how it continues to change in the UK and around the world. Texts from 1600 onwards will be studied to see evidence of the developments of the English language.

In all such topics, different attitudes to language will be explored. There will be analysis of journalism from these debates and opportunities to write your own journalistic contributions to explain your views.

“English Language has allowed me to develop my understanding of societal and cultural norms.”

Joe Carpenter

In coursework there will be the opportunity to produce original writing, accompanied by a commentary in which your language choices will be justified. There will also be an independent research project on an area of language that is of personal interest: constructing a methodology for research, collecting language data, analysis and concluding. The focus of English Language at A Level is quite different from GCSE.

## THE WORK

In class, you will respond to texts through annotation and note-taking, as well as discussion of the merits of theories and attitudes about language use. Resource packs will guide you through key content. Regular terminology recap tasks will assist in remembering the large amount of subject vocabulary encountered.

Out of class, there will be written assignments to complete, research tasks to do prior to lessons and revision of recent ideas for tests. Throughout the course you will be directed to independent learning resources – such as articles and audio-visual clips – linked from our subject Intranet site.

## THE ASSESSMENT

Assessment will consist of two 2½ hour exams (80%) and coursework (20%).

Joe Carpenter  
The Henry Beaufort School

Amelia Chant  
The Henry Beaufort School

### Subjects

Textiles  
Environmental Science  
English Language

### Activities

Couch to 5K  
Mindful Colouring



“I really enjoy the fact that A Level English Language is completely different to GCSE, allowing me to learn about other aspects of English Language that I did not know about before.”

Amelia Chant

### WHERE COULD IT TAKE ME?

The social science outlook of the subject at A Level fits well with studies of Psychology, Sociology, Media, and English Literature. Potential careers include teaching, publishing, public relations, journalism, marketing, management, law and speech therapy. Many of our students go on to study at university in a range of disciplines, using English Language A Level to demonstrate skills in communication and an analytical approach to texts.

### FURTHER STUDY

English Language  
English Studies  
Journalism  
English and Sociology  
English and Communications  
Linguistics  
Creative Writing  
Advertising

### CAREER IDEAS

Copywriting  
Journalism  
Editing  
Teaching  
Writer  
Librarian  
Marketing  
Social media

SEE ALSO:

English Language  
English Literature

# ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

AT PETER SYMONDS



## THE COURSE

This course is designed for students who love close analysis, reading and creative writing. Through deep textual analysis of a range of different types of text, you will learn how to write like a reader and read like a writer. You will explore exactly how it is that writers and speakers are able to create their own distinctive voices, and you will add your own voice with your own creative writing.

The writers you will study include novelists, poets, playwrights, journalists and speechmakers, from Shakespeare to Donald Trump. You will also explore how writing and speech are influenced by the views about race, gender, sexuality and politics of the time in which they are written and published.

The course has a strong emphasis on independent study. As part of your coursework, you will read two iconic works of literature of your own choice. You will learn to be a skilled writer and an expert at insightful and precise analysis, with a wide vocabulary. Through your studies, you will gain an excellent knowledge base of over thirty famous writers and speakers.

## WHERE COULD IT TAKE ME?

A Level English Language and Literature enables you to express yourself elegantly and concisely, to formulate arguments convincingly, and to interpret any kind of verbal or written communication accurately and insightfully. The course is an excellent preparation for any English degree, but also for humanities degrees. It could also be an excellent choice as a third A Level to complement a STEM university and career pathway, as it gives you an important set of interpersonal and interpretative skills.

Victor Savage  
Upper Shirley High



## THE WORK

Lessons will be a mixture of dynamic classroom discussion and writing activities, with plenty of opportunities for enrichment activities such as talks, events, competitions and trips.

The course is divided into four units: three examined and one coursework. In Poetry and Prose, you will study a range of classic poets and the award-winning novel 'The Color Purple'. In Drama, you will study Shakespeare's 'Othello' and Alan Bennett's play 'The History Boys'. In Non-Literary Texts, you will explore the definitive true crime thriller 'In Cold Blood' as well as a range of speakers. In coursework, you will read and write in one of the following genres of your choice: Dystopia, Crime, Gothic, Outsiders, Sci-fi or War.

Whilst creative writing is a part of the assessment, the majority of your writing will be analytical essays, in which you will develop the ability to construct sophisticated and convincing arguments and to support them with detailed evidence.

## THE ASSESSMENT

This A Level will consist of three exams of 2 hours each (80%) and a coursework folder (20%).

## FURTHER STUDY

Any English degree  
Creative Writing  
Law  
History  
Media Studies  
Sociology/Psychology  
Criminology

## CAREER IDEAS

Writing  
Journalism  
Teaching  
Film/TV  
PR/Marketing  
Law  
Any job requiring strong communication skills

SEE ALSO:

English Language  
English Language and Literature

# ENGLISH LITERATURE

AT PETER SYMONDS

## THE COURSE

This is a course for those who are passionate about reading, discussing and analysing literary texts. You will study a range of poetry, prose and drama by diverse writers from Shakespeare to twenty-first century poets. You will closely analyse texts to explore the effects of literary features; attention is also paid to the bigger picture as you will consider the works as a whole. You will examine the ways that a text has been interpreted by different readers and the significance of cultural and contextual influences upon the writers and their work.

English Literature is academically challenging and personally enriching: a course which enables you to think and write clearly and critically, both about literature and the wider world.

Benedict Robinson  
The Westgate School



## THE WORK

In class, learning takes place through whole class and group discussion as well as writing activities. You will spend a significant amount of independent study time reading texts and critical material in preparation for lessons, and to develop your understanding. There are plenty of options for enrichment activities including reading groups, trips and writing competitions.

The essay is the cornerstone of English study. You will write at least two essays every half term, and spend time in class and private study embedding these essential writing skills, which will continue to serve you in life beyond A Level. Literature students are expected to write in a mature, academic style. Quality of writing and ability to construct an argument are key discriminators for success at A Level. To help students, we have an extensive network of one-to-one support and workshops.

## WHERE COULD IT TAKE ME?

Studies have repeatedly shown that the key to life success is reading. Reading makes us smarter, wiser, and more empathetic, as well as enhancing our concentration and critical thinking skills. By engaging our imagination, reading allows us to experience the world from perspectives that are closed to those who do not read. It also creates highly articulate and confident communicators equipped with the skills prized by every profession. English Literature will take you anywhere.

## THE ASSESSMENT

The A Level consists of two exams of 2½ hours each (80%) and a coursework folder, consisting of two extended essays (20%).



## FURTHER STUDY

English Literature  
English Studies  
Journalism  
English and Sociology  
English and Communications  
Creative Writing  
Advertising

## CAREER IDEAS

Copywriting  
Journalism  
Editing  
Teaching  
Writer  
Law  
Marketing  
Social media

# ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

AT PETER SYMONDS

## ADDITIONAL GRADE REQUIREMENTS

Grades 6,5,5 or above in any combination of Maths and Science GCSEs.



## THE COURSE

**Year 1:** There are two main areas of study:

**1. The living environment:** Wildlife conservation including the importance of biodiversity, habitat conservation, and captive breeding and release programmes.

**2. The physical environment:** Environmental issues such as melting ice sheets, coral reef decline and the discovery of new water sources are explored, with the emphasis on how to find solutions to these issues through improved management and the use of new technology. Many sides of the issues are discussed to enable you to form well-balanced opinions, which you can support with logical arguments and objective scientific evidence.

**Year 2:** There are four main areas of study:

Energy resources, pollution, biological resources and sustainability. The applied nature of the subject means that there are many opportunities to relate topics to everyday issues and current affairs.



## THE WORK

You will learn through a variety of activities, such as laboratory practical work, discussion and problem solving, synthesising information from a variety of sources and critical evaluation of data sources.

Students can participate in field trips to, for example, a local nature reserve, the New Forest Wildlife Park and a residential field work course in Dorset. There may be an opportunity to be involved in one of the overseas expeditions offered: previous destinations include the Azores and Madeira.

Throughout the A Level there will be extension activities such as workshops and lectures given by experts from industry and academia, and by former students.

## THE ASSESSMENT

Assessment will be by means of two written examinations at the end of the second year.

## WHERE COULD IT TAKE ME?

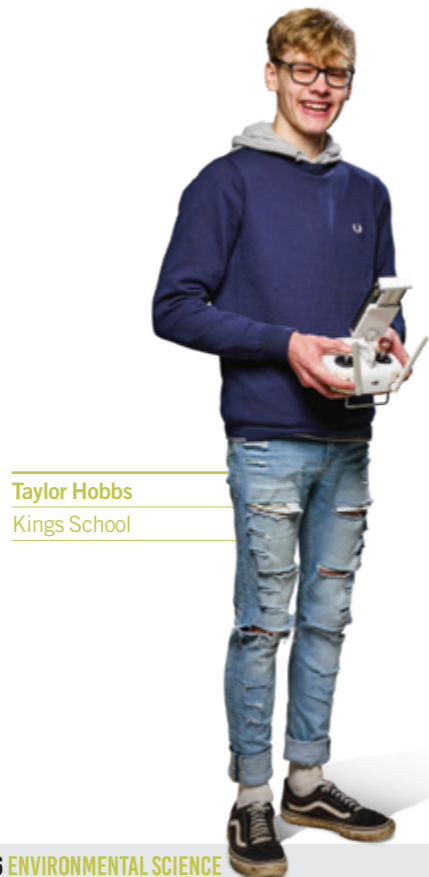
One of the most relevant and topical A Level subjects, Environmental Science is recognised and valued by universities for a diverse range of degrees. The skills that students develop such as problem solving, data collection and analysis, and effective independent research are skills that many degree courses depend on. Past students are employed in a variety of fields, including the petrochemical industry, environmental monitoring in the nuclear industry, veterinary science and agrochemicals.

## FURTHER STUDY

Environmental Science  
Marine Biology  
Oceanography  
Zoology  
Veterinary Medicine  
Meteorology  
Combined Science

## CAREER IDEAS

Environmental management  
Conservation research  
Fisheries  
Energy resources development  
Architecture  
Engineering  
Petrochemicals



Taylor Hobbs  
Kings School

# FASHION, THEATRE AND MEDIA HAIR AND MAKE-UP STUDIES

AT STONEY LANE



## THE COURSE

You can take this qualification over two years alongside A Levels – it will be timetabled on a Monday or a Wednesday afternoon over the two years. Those who are not following an A Level programme can complete the Diploma in one year as a full time course. This course has been specifically designed for the 16–19 age group; it can be taken without any existing knowledge and understanding of hair and beauty skills. Equally it can build on any existing skills you may have gained at Level 2. You will develop an enhanced repertoire of technical skills to prepare you for employment as a professional Make-up Artist.

A passion for the subject is essential and previous relevant experience is desirable.



## THE WORK

You will carry out both practical work in our salon and theoretical work, with a set amount of home study. Following tutor-led demonstrations, you will practise your skills on each other in class and then graduate onto clients when ready. This course demands a considerable amount of theory and practical work and requires additional home study. The areas studied include: airbrush make-up, camouflage make-up, fashion and photographic make-up, and media make-up. You can also study prosthetics, bald caps, individual lashes, styling and dressing hair using a variety of techniques, and basic instruction on make-up. You will also need to complete a Lookbook.

## THE ASSESSMENT

You will be assessed under realistic working conditions, just as if you were backstage or in a salon. Practical and written work is internally marked, followed by external verification by the Vocational Training Charitable Trust (VTCT). There are continual practical assessments, written assessment questions, internal and external exams, and you will prepare a Lookbook and a portfolio of evidence for all theory and practical treatments. This qualification carries 32 UCAS points, equivalent to a grade C.

## ADDITIONAL GRADE REQUIREMENTS

GCSE English and Mathematics at grade 4 or above are preferable. If this level has not already been achieved, you will be expected to re-take these GCSE subjects alongside your course.

## WHERE COULD IT TAKE ME?

Learners who complete this qualification are eligible to become a member of the British Association of Beauty Therapy and Cosmetology (BABTAC). Career opportunities include working as a professional Make-up Artist in theatres, film, print media, photographic studios, independently or in a mobile or home-based setting. The primary purpose of this course is to prepare you for employment as a professional Theatrical Media Make-up Artist.

## FURTHER STUDY

Salon Management  
Hair, Make-up and Special Effects  
Fashion, Styling and Make-up  
Theatre Arts  
Film and TV Make-up  
Media/Make-up

## CAREER IDEAS

Media make-up  
Beautician  
Fashion and styling  
Make-up design  
Beauty consultant  
Film/TV special effects  
Cosmetics

SEE ALSO:

- Media: Digital Media
- Media Studies

# FILM STUDIES

AT PETER SYMONDS



## THE COURSE

Film Studies teaches you to 'read' films through analysing their meaning and by understanding how they are made. You will learn about the stylistic and thematic differences between mainstream Hollywood productions and independent films, British and European films and world cinema. The course will teach you how narratives are constructed and the ways that spectators and audiences interact with films.

You will study contemporary and historical films from an analytical standpoint. The course will enable you to understand how films can be located and identified within specific cultural, political and social contexts. You will learn about defining film movements such as French New Wave and Surrealism, and how they have impacted and shaped contemporary film culture.

In Year 1 you will study British and American films. Year 2 will focus on other national film movements that might challenge the average filmgoer. You will apply a range of critical approaches to your study of these films, including ideology, auteur and spectatorship. You will also produce your own short film, supported by qualified film technicians. No prior film making experience is required for this course. Please note that some films studied will carry an 18 certificate.



Dom Holyoake  
Burgate School

## THE WORK

### Component 1: Varieties of film and filmmaking

**American film:** A two film comparative study of Classical Hollywood and New Hollywood. A two film study of a mainstream and independent contemporary US film.

**British film since 1995:** A two-film study of British contemporary cinema.

### Component 2: Global filmmaking perspectives

Study of one contemporary world cinema film and one recent European film.

Two films from two film movements and one documentary film.

### Component 3: Practical filmmaking

You will plan, film and edit your own short film completely independently. We provide all the equipment you will need, but you need to have confident creative skills and be willing to recruit and direct actors.

## THE ASSESSMENT

Components 1 and 2 are assessed via two exam papers (70%). Component 3 is assessed using practical coursework (30%). For the A Level qualification you will study and write about 11 individual films.



Sabi Howles  
Ryde School

### Subjects

- History
- Film Studies
- Psychology

### Activities

- Dance Live



“I have developed a whole new understanding and appreciation for film. I find it really exciting when I make connections and see hidden ideologies and messages about the films that I didn't see before.”

Sabi Howles

### WHERE COULD IT TAKE ME?

The study of Film is well regarded and offered at Oxbridge and Russell Group universities. The combination of rigorous theoretical understanding and technical and creative knowledge means that you will develop your own knowledge and enjoyment of film-making, grounded in an academic context. As such it fits very well alongside a range of other humanities, creative and technical subjects to give you a strong basis for university study.

### FURTHER STUDY

- Film and Television Production
- Film, Media and Culture
- Journalism
- Gaming
- Special Effects
- Film/TV make-up

### CAREER IDEAS

- Broadcast engineer
- Location management
- Researcher
- Camera operator
- Producer/production
- Director
- Marketing executive

SEE ALSO:

- German
- Italian
- Latin
- Spanish

# FRENCH

AT PETER SYMONDS

## ADDITIONAL GRADE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 6 or above in  
French GCSE.



## THE COURSE

A Level French will move you on from GCSE, covering all four skills: reading, writing, speaking and listening. You will gain a greater knowledge of grammatical structures and so develop accuracy in the language. Teaching is based on a thematic approach and the language is taught through a variety of contemporary issues, using authentic resources. The study of a French film will be a focus, as will the study of a contemporary French novel.

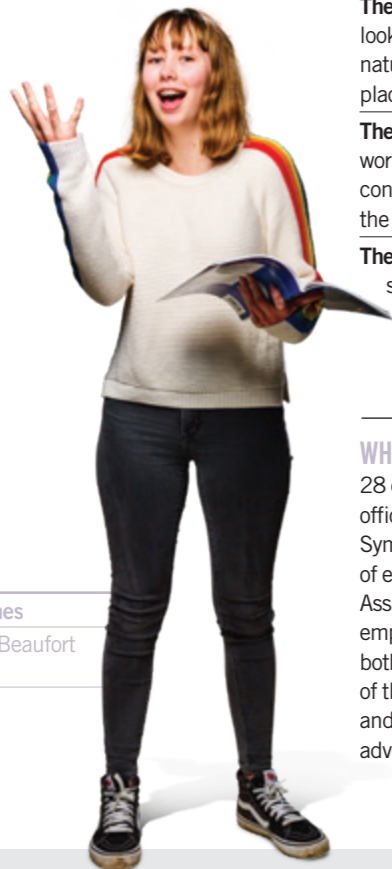
You will study aspects of the contemporary society and culture of France and other French-speaking countries, and this is a key feature of the assessment too.

The following topics will be studied:

**Theme 1:** Aspects of French-speaking society, looking at current trends such as the changing nature of family, cyber-society and France as a place of voluntary work.

**Theme 2:** Artistic culture in the French-speaking world, covering French culture and heritage, contemporary francophone music and cinema: the 7th art form.

**Theme 3:** Further aspects of French-speaking society, including the positive features of a diverse society, life for marginalised people and how criminals are treated.



Emma James  
The Henry Beaufort School

## WHERE COULD IT TAKE ME?

28 countries around the world have French as an official language, so by studying French at Peter Symonds you will not only benefit from the help of enthusiastic teachers and French Language Assistants, but you will also increase your employment prospects for the future. French is both a working language and an official language of the United Nations, UNESCO and NATO, and an ability to speak French gives you a real advantage on the international job market.

**Theme 4:** Aspects of political life in the French-speaking world, including teenagers, the right to vote and political commitment; demonstrations and strikes, and who holds the power; and politics and immigration.

## THE WORK

Class work and independent study will be varied, to ensure that you practise all four skills. There will be a range of reading, writing, translation, grammar, video, listening and vocabulary work, and you will engage in whole-class, group and pair discussions. From October to May you will also have a small group conversation session with a foreign language assistant. There are many cinema and theatre trips and visits on offer, and you will have the opportunity to develop and use your French on our annual trip to Nice.

## THE ASSESSMENT

All four skills (speaking, listening, reading and writing) will be assessed, with cultural content forming a key part of the assessment. Assessment methods will include translation, research, presenting and speaking, writing, and listening/reading comprehension.

## FURTHER STUDY

- French
- Business and French
- English and French
- French and Politics
- Modern Languages
- Languages and Tourism
- Law and French

## CAREER IDEAS

- Interpreter
- Translator
- Teacher
- Journalist
- Diplomat
- International aid
- Logistics and distribution

SEE ALSO:

- Environmental Studies

# GEOGRAPHY

AT PETER SYMONDS

## ADDITIONAL GRADE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 4 or above in  
Geography GCSE and a  
single science.



## THE COURSE

Students explore the world through space, place and scale, giving rich insights into the natural and human environment and processes of change such as global warming, globalization and geopolitics. Geography is a broad subject, drawing on the humanities and the sciences as well as cutting edge technologies.

In **Year 1** you will study: **Tectonic and atmospheric hazards** (volcanoes, earthquakes, tsunamis, storms and wildfires):

To understand their origin and nature, impacts and management strategies. **Water and carbon cycles:** To understand the magnitude, significance and relevance of these cycles and their central importance for human populations. **Changing places:** To examine the relationships and connections between people, the economy, society and the environment to explain why places are constantly changing.

In **Year 2** you will study: **Dynamic physical landscapes:** To explore earth surface processes, landforms and resultant landscapes; glacial, coastal or hot deserts. **Contested planet:** An investigation into global connectivity and governance to understand the ways in which global systems shape relationships between individuals, states and environments and

## NOT STUDYING GEOGRAPHY GCSE?

You can still study it at A Level but you'll need grade 4 in any two single sciences or combined science.



Tim Childs  
The Westgate School

## WHERE COULD IT TAKE ME?

A Level Geography is highly valued by universities and employers for its transferable skills. The Russell Group names Geography as one of its eight facilitating subjects. With growing interest in climate change, energy security, migration, environmental degradation and social cohesion, Geography is one of today's most relevant degree courses, making graduates highly employable in a wide range of careers.

their consequences. Options include the study of contemporary urban environments or resource security. **Geography fieldwork investigation:** Including data collected in the field. Based on a question defined and developed by you, relating to any part of the specification content.

## THE WORK

Geography lessons feature a wide range of teaching and learning techniques, including decision-making exercises, discussions and debates, textual analysis and independent research using interactive resources.

We offer a wide range of extension opportunities, including Hampshire Geographical Association Lectures and the Cambridge University HE+ scheme.

Fieldwork is essential and you will participate in local non-residential field courses and have the opportunity to attend a residential field course either in the UK or overseas.

## THE ASSESSMENT

The A Level is assessed by two 2½ hour exams (80%); and through your independent fieldwork and research investigation (20%).

## FURTHER STUDY

- Geography
- Geology
- Climatology
- Meteorology
- Social Geography
- Human Geography
- Urban Planning
- Ecology and Environment

## CAREER IDEAS

- Business and finance
- Environmental management
- Conservation
- Travel and tourism
- International relations
- Government and politics

SEE ALSO:

- French
- Italian
- Latin
- Spanish

# GERMAN

AT PETER SYMONDS

## ADDITIONAL GRADE REQUIREMENTS

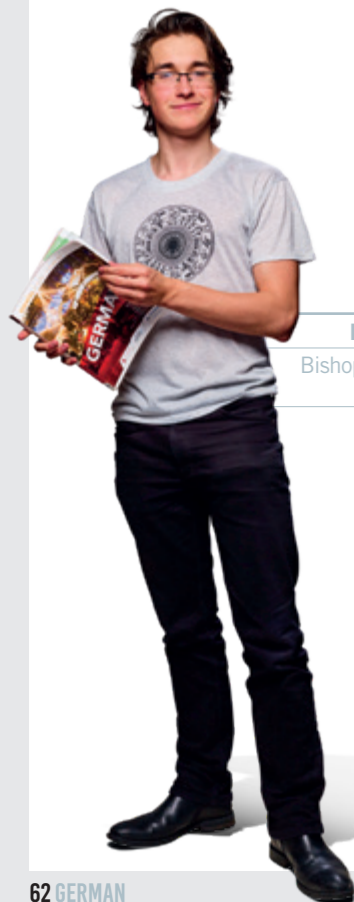
Grade 6 or above in  
German GCSE.



## THE COURSE

A Level German will move you on from GCSE, covering all four skills: reading, writing, speaking and listening. You will gain a greater knowledge of grammatical structures and so develop accuracy in the language. Teaching is based on a thematic approach and the language is taught through a variety of contemporary issues, using authentic resources. In the second year, you will continue to enhance your knowledge of the target language, improving your linguistic skills while using the language to present viewpoints, develop, analyse and evaluate arguments both when speaking and writing.

During this course, you will study aspects of the contemporary society and culture of Germany and other German-speaking countries. You will study a variety of topics around work and education in modern German society, as well as various aspects of culture such as music, media, festivals and traditions. Immigration and multiculturalism in society is also a feature of the course, in addition to issues surrounding reunification: before, during and after. This is complemented by the study of a German film and an introduction to German literature.



**Philipp Nikolin**  
Bishop Wordsworth's  
School

“German lessons that focus on grammar have always gripped my attention far more than anything else... I find it interesting to understand why the language works the way it does.”

Philipp Nikolin

## THE WORK

You will improve your language skills while gaining an understanding of the contemporary society, cultural background and heritage of Germany. You will learn to speak and write at length in German about all aspects of German society and culture. From October to May you will also have conversation sessions in groups of three or four with a foreign language assistant.

There is a clear independent study programme to complete outside lessons, dividing your weekly study time between learning vocabulary, reading, writing and listening tasks.

You will also have the opportunity to use your German on our very popular trip to Germany or Austria.

## THE ASSESSMENT

All four skills (speaking, listening, reading and writing) will be assessed, with cultural content forming a key part of the assessment. Assessment methods will include translation, research, presenting and speaking, writing, and listening/reading comprehension.

**Anna Jay**  
Testbourne School

### Subjects

- French
- German
- Psychology

### Activities

- Gold Duke Of  
Edinburgh



“I love having the ability to communicate with people from other countries. On the college trip to Berlin we were able to talk to native speakers and get around ourselves – it felt empowering and the locals were very impressed!”

Anna Jay

### WHERE COULD IT TAKE ME?

This practical, applied approach to the study of German means that it will be useful to students of the arts and sciences alike. In higher education, German can be studied in combination with many other courses and many degrees, including those in the sciences, and will be beneficial to those students who may wish to complete part of their degree abroad. Modern languages graduates – in particular German due to the lack of Germanists in the UK – are in great demand in the job market.

### FURTHER STUDY

- German
- Business and German
- English and German
- German and Politics
- Modern Languages
- Languages and Tourism
- Law and German

### CAREER IDEAS

- Interpreter
- Translator
- Teacher
- Journalist
- Diplomat
- International aid
- Logistics and distribution



SEE ALSO:

- Art: Fine Art
- Art: Photography
- Art: Textiles
- Art: Three Dimensional Design
- Product Design

# GRAPHIC COMMUNICATION

AT PETER SYMONDS

### ADDITIONAL GRADE REQUIREMENTS

Previous study of a Design and Technology or an Art and Design subject is desirable.

## THE COURSE

When you study Graphics you need to think of the subject as 'commercial art'. You will be exploring ideas visually, creating beautiful outcomes that communicate specific messages and have a commercial application. You will see that Graphics is the process by which ideas are communicated through the use of symbols, drawings, photographs and typography to convey concepts to the wider world.

## THE WORK

Your work will incorporate a variety of related disciplines and you will have the opportunity to utilise traditional skills alongside cutting-edge digital technologies.

You will spend a lot of time researching, thinking around and exploring ideas which will help you develop unique ways to respond to a brief.

With access to the latest edition of Adobe Creative Cloud software, you will learn digital skills too. You will have the chance to use the laser and CAMM cutters to produce the best quality outcomes, which look highly professional.

## THE ASSESSMENT

You will be assessed through a personal investigation (60%) and externally-set assignment with a 15-hour exam (40%).



**Carmen Waters**  
Priestlands School



**Daisy Malcolm**  
The Westgate School

**Zee Mpofu**  
St Annes Catholic School

### Subjects

- Graphic Communication
- Photography
- Product Design

### Activities

- Dance Challenge Hair & Make-up



“I really enjoy Graphics, creating and exploring new design techniques. Peter Symonds is such a fun college; everyone here is welcoming and supportive. There are loads of services you can go to if you ever need help.”

Zee Mpofu

### WHERE COULD IT TAKE ME?

Many of our students have gone on to study creative graphics-based courses, for example, Graphic Design, Illustration, Digital Media and Animation. Whether furthering your studies at degree level or entering the workplace, an A Level in Graphic Communication provides an excellent foundation, leading to employment in a variety of areas including marketing, advertising and website/digital media design.

### FURTHER STUDY

- Graphic Design
- Illustration
- Digital Media
- Animation
- Advertising
- Marketing
- Multimedia Design
- Architecture

### CAREER IDEAS

- Advertising
- Animation
- Graphic design
- Illustration
- Digital design
- Interior design
- Landscape architecture
- Photography

# HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

AT PETER SYMONDS

## THE COURSE

The Health and Social Care qualifications are designed to equip you with varying skills, knowledge and understanding in the areas of health, social care and working with children and young people. There are three pathways to choose from:

**The Extended Certificate:** 6 units are studied and they are equivalent to one A Level.

**The Diploma studies:** 12 units are studied and they are equivalent to two A Levels.

**The Extended Diploma:** 18 units are studied and they are equivalent to three A Levels.

The Extended Diploma is a full time course so you will need to be confident that you want to follow a career related to health care, social care or early years.



Louisa Goodchild  
Thornden School

Depending on which course you choose the units will be selected from mandatory units and optional units taught over a two year period.

Mandatory units for all levels include:

**Year 1:** 3 units:

- Positive relationships
- Equality, diversity and rights
- Health, safety and security

**Year 2:** 3 units:

- Anatomy and physiology
- Nutrition for health
- Psychology for health and social care

The Diploma will include the mandatory units, and also:

- Mental health
- Infection control
- Personalisation and a person-centred approach to care
- Safeguarding
- Plus three further units

The Extended Diploma will include the mandatory units, the Diploma units, and also:

- Promote positive behaviour
- The impact of long-term physiological conditions
- Research methods in health, social care and childcare
- Plus three further units

## THE WORK

The units are completed through a variety of different study methods, including classroom teaching, investigations, practical tasks and presentations. The work provides the opportunity for independent study and collaborative work with your peers, which will help you to develop communication and team working skills, as well as good planning and organisation. The coursework consists of extended pieces of writing supported by classroom activities, and you will complete this in class time and independent study time. Work experience is an important component of this course and will enable you to link theory to practice and to develop the skills, knowledge and understanding required by the Health and Social Care and Early Years Sector.

## THE ASSESSMENT

Health and Social Care is assessed through coursework (50%) and an external exam (50%). All units may be awarded Pass, Merit or Distinction. Successful achievement in each unit will be combined, leading to a final grade(s) for the whole qualification.



Angelina Ribicka  
Testbourne School

### Subjects

Health and Social Care  
Psychology  
Sociology

### Activities

College Gym  
Psychology Film Club



“I have felt supported at college as all the teachers provide workshops if you need extra support, or want to go over something you didn't understand in class. My tutor is lovely, we can go to her for support any time.”

Angelina Ribicka

### WHERE COULD IT TAKE ME?

Health and Social Care qualifications are recognised by universities. They will enable you to apply to study a degree in a wide range of subject areas. The qualification is also valuable as a route into higher apprenticeships or direct employment.

### FURTHER STUDY

Nursing  
Midwifery  
Radiology  
Occupational Therapy  
Paramedic Practice  
Social Work  
Teaching  
Physiotherapy

### CAREER IDEAS

Nurse (adult, children, mental health)  
Midwife  
Radiologist  
Occupational therapist  
Paramedic  
Social worker  
Teacher  
Physiotherapist

SEE ALSO:

- Classical Civilisation
- Law
- Politics

# HISTORY

AT PETER SYMONDS

## THE COURSE

You will have the choice of following one of three routes in History. Each route leads to an A Level History qualification.

### Route A: Crusades, Monarchy and Rebellion

In this route you will study the causes and outcomes of the **Crusades** as well as the Muslim response and the development of jihad. You will also study **Henry II**, probably the greatest English king you have never heard of. Henry made many successful reforms before disastrously falling out with Thomas Becket. In the second year you will complete a piece of **coursework on Tudor Rebellions** and study the **Wars of the Roses** – the story of the struggle for control of England, starting with Henry V and ending with the establishment of the Tudors.

### Route B: Revolutions and Republics

This route focuses on three periods of unrest and upheaval and the attempts to ensure stability within them. The first unit is **Stuart Britain**, the story of a modern country emerging from the medieval era, a study of civil war, restoration and revolution. Students also study the **French Revolution**, which became the model for all subsequent revolutions, before moving onto their **coursework on the Cold War** and a unit considering **Germany** from unification in 1871 past both world wars to reunification in 1990.

### Route C: Communism, Monarchy and Rebellion

The first topic in this route is the story of **communism in the Soviet Union** from the Russian revolution in 1917, through the era of Stalin, up to the collapse of the USSR in 1991. The second topic looks at **China** from the communist victory in the civil war in 1949 up to the death of Mao in 1976. In your second year you will complete a piece of **coursework on the Cold War** and study your British topic, the **Wars of the Roses** – the story of the struggle for control of England, starting with Henry V and ending with the establishment of the Tudors.

## THE WORK

Lessons will include group work, discussions, presentations, source analysis, and cut and stick exercises. However, studying A Level History does require a large amount of reading and writing and these will form a key part of many lessons. Outside of class you will be expected to complete homework and also engage in independent work, including writing essays, making notes, and extension reading to further your knowledge.

We have run trips to Paris, Berlin and Istanbul and we hope to repeat at least one of these each year. There are also opportunities for local visits and chances to hear historians who are specialists in their field.

## THE ASSESSMENT

One exam on each topic plus a piece of coursework which is 20% of the final grade.



Rebecca Robin  
John Hanson  
Community School

“Students are encouraged to communicate in and out of lessons, which broadens our social skills and forms new friendships with our classmates.”

Rebecca Robin



Milozc Kowalski  
Bitterne Park School

### Subjects

- French
- History
- Sociology

### Activities

- Anthropology Club
- Debating Society
- French Conversation
- First Aid
- Oxbridge preparation
- HE+



“We’re a very close group and help each other in and out of lessons. Everyone gets along amazingly well and the rapport with our teacher is really good. The atmosphere of positivity and openness in the class makes studying history extremely fun.”

Milozc Kowalski

### WHERE COULD IT TAKE ME?

History is useful for any career which involves researching and analysing information and expressing arguments based upon evidence. Good examples of this are careers in the Civil Service, banking and accountancy, politics, social and business administration, teaching, journalism, law, public relations and personnel management.

### FURTHER STUDY

- History
- Economics
- International Relations
- Politics
- Law

### CAREER IDEAS

- Banking and accountancy
- Politics
- Teaching
- Journalism
- Law
- Public relations

# INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

AT PETER SYMONDS

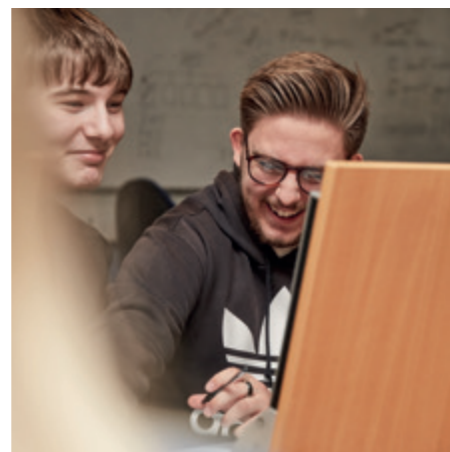
## THE COURSE

There are two routes of study for Information Technology – the Extended Certificate (equivalent to one A Level) and the Diploma (equivalent to two A Levels).

Within the Extended Certificate you will study an Information Technology Systems Unit, where you will explore the relationships between hardware and software that form an IT system. You will implement social media strategies for a business in Using Social Media in Business; create and test relational database systems in Creating Systems to Manage Information; and design a website to meet a client's requirements in the Website Development Unit.

In addition to the units studied in the Extended Certificate, within the Diploma you will learn about the fundamentals of programming to design, develop and test computer programs. You will create applications in Mobile Apps Development, investigate a range of management principles and methodologies in IT Project Management; and study cyber security threats and vulnerabilities, to be able to plan and manage security incidents, in Cyber Security and Incident Management.

These courses have been designed to support those who are interested in both the IT and Computing sectors, to give them a basic introduction into how technology is used within a variety of sectors, with a view to integrating knowledge learned alongside other fields of study.



## THE WORK

The units are completed using combinations of study approaches including classroom teaching, presentations, research, independent and group investigations, alongside practical work.

The use of relevant IT industry standard scenarios ensures that all theoretical and practical content can be put into practice either in the workplace or as preliminary understanding before progression onto higher education courses.

There are opportunities to develop crucial employability skills during the teaching and learning phases. Learners will cultivate transferable skills and knowledge for progression in higher education or in the workplace.

## THE ASSESSMENT

A combination of assessment methods are employed within the course, which include a mixture of both internally and externally assessed coursework and examinations, all of which are awarded at either Pass, Merit or Distinction.

Grades for successful completion of each unit will be combined, which will then lead to a final grade(s) for the whole qualification.

Oliver Norris-Hill  
Rookwood School

### Subjects

Geography  
Information Technology  
Sport

### Activities

Rugby



“ I didn't take IT at GCSE but I enjoy it the most out of my three subjects. Coursework suits my learning style much better and the subject is taught in different ways which helps my learning. ”

Oliver Norris-Hill

## WHERE COULD IT TAKE ME?

The courses provide an outstanding foundation for diverse career choices within Web Technology, Digital Media & Design, System Engineering, App Development, and Information Systems Management. A strong qualification in Information Technology will enable progression to higher education, with a focus on Computing, IT, Business and Management sectors.

## FURTHER STUDY

Information Technology  
Computer Science  
Web Technologies  
Engineering  
IT & Business Management  
Digital Media & Animation  
Game Design

## CAREER IDEAS

Software engineer  
Information systems manager  
Project manager  
Game developer  
App developer  
IT systems engineer  
Multi-media developer

SEE ALSO:

- French
- German
- Latin
- Spanish

# ITALIAN POST GCSE

AT PETER SYMONDS

**ADDITIONAL  
GRADE REQUIREMENTS**

Grade 6 or above in Italian GCSE.



## THE COURSE

A Level Italian will move you on from GCSE, covering all four skills of reading, writing, speaking and listening. You will gain a greater knowledge of grammatical structures and so develop accuracy in the language. Teaching is based on a thematic approach and the language is taught through a variety of contemporary issues, using authentic resources. The study of an Italian film will also be a focus.

The second year will enable you to develop your linguistic skills further, while continuing to enhance your knowledge of the Italian language, the country and its culture. You will use the language to present viewpoints, develop, analyse and evaluate arguments both when speaking and writing. The study of an Italian film and book will be integral to your course.

During this course, you will study aspects of contemporary society and culture in Italy; this is a key feature of assessment.



**Lovena Appadoo**  
St Anne's Catholic School

## WHERE COULD IT TAKE ME?

This practical, applied approach to the study of Italian means it will be useful to students of the arts and sciences alike. In higher education, Italian can be studied in combination with many other courses and degrees, including those in the sciences, making A Level Italian beneficial for students who may choose to complete part of their degree abroad. Modern languages graduates are in great demand in the job market.

## THE WORK

Your aim will be to improve your language skills while gaining an understanding of the contemporary society, cultural background and heritage of Italy. You will learn to speak and write at length in Italian about all aspects of Italian society and culture. In class, you will practise all four skills and will engage in whole-class, group and pair discussions. From October to May, you will also have small group conversation sessions with a foreign language assistant. There is a clear independent study programme to complete outside lessons, dividing your weekly study time between reading, writing and listening tasks. You will also have the opportunity to use your Italian on our study trip to Pavia.

## THE ASSESSMENT

All four skills (speaking, listening, reading and writing) will be assessed, with cultural content forming a key part of the assessment. Assessment methods will include translation, research, presenting and speaking, writing and listening/reading comprehension.

## FURTHER STUDY

- Italian
- Business and Italian
- English and Italian
- Italian and Politics
- Modern Languages
- Languages and Tourism
- Law and Italian

## CAREER IDEAS

- Interpreter
- Translator
- Teaching
- Journalism
- Diplomatic service
- International aid
- Logistics and distribution

SEE ALSO:

- French
- German
- Latin
- Spanish

# ITALIAN FROM SCRATCH

AT PETER SYMONDS

**ADDITIONAL  
GRADE REQUIREMENTS**

Grade 7 or above in another foreign language GCSE.



## THE COURSE

If you are a good linguist you can choose to begin Italian from scratch as one of your A Level choices. The ab initio course is accelerated and concentrates on the four key skills of listening, reading, speaking and writing. Topics to be studied will include relationships, leisure time and media, holidays, the environment, work and education, as well as social issues at national and international levels.

In the first term there will be emphasis on grammar in order to allow you to gain confidence in manipulating and understanding the language. You will take a GCSE examination at the end of the first year. However, you will have been taught to a level substantially above the requirements of GCSE and will be prepared for taking A Level in the second year.

## THE WORK

In class, you will practise all four skills – reading, writing, listening and speaking – and will engage in whole-class, group and pair discussions. From January through to May you will also have small group conversation sessions with

a foreign language assistant. There is a clear independent study programme to complete outside lessons, dividing your weekly study time between reading, writing, speaking and listening tasks. You will also have the opportunity to use your Italian on our study trip to Pavia.

You will be set weekly tasks to reinforce the newly-learned grammar points and vocabulary, and to familiarise yourself with the exam formats.

Students who have gained a high grade in the GCSE exam may progress to A Level in the second year. At A Level you will continue to enhance your knowledge of Italian, improving your linguistic skills while using the language to present viewpoints, develop, analyse and evaluate arguments both when speaking and writing.

## THE ASSESSMENT

The GCSE qualification at the end of the first year includes assessment of listening and reading (by exam), speaking (internally conducted and submitted for assessment) and writing (by exam).



**Jude Whittingum**  
Kings School

## WHERE COULD IT TAKE ME?

Students who study Italian are well prepared for a range of academic and workplace environments. You will develop strong communication and interpersonal skills.

## FURTHER STUDY

- Italian
- Business and Italian
- English and Italian
- Italian and Politics
- Modern Languages
- Languages and Tourism
- Law and Italian

## CAREER IDEAS

- Interpreter
- Translator
- Teaching
- Journalism
- Diplomatic service
- International aid
- Logistics and distribution

SEE ALSO:

- Classical Civilisation
- French
- German
- Spanish

# LATIN

AT PETER SYMONDS

**ADDITIONAL  
GRADE REQUIREMENTS**

Grade 5 or above in Latin GCSE.



## THE COURSE

The course covers both language and literature. There is a language element throughout both years: you will tackle increasingly complex sentence constructions and cover a wider range of vocabulary than faced at GCSE. In short, you will aim to develop your skills at translating and understanding unseen Latin.

There will also be a strong literature element: you will study meaningful selections from Roman authors. You will cover two prose authors and two poets over the two years.

As regards the prose, we will look at part of Livy's account of the final years of the reign of Rome's final king, the tyrannical Tarquinius Superbus, and his downfall at the hands of Lucius Junius Brutus, together with a selection from Tacitus' Annals, in particular part of his account of the career of the notorious Lucius Aelius Seianus (Sejanus to fans of 'I, Claudius').

On the verse side you will study two of the following three: extracts from Book 12 of Virgil's Aeneid, which covers the culmination of Aeneas' epic struggle to see his refugee people safely settled in their promised land in Italy; a selection of Ovid's Heroides, a series of imaginary letters from the heroines of mythology to the men who treated them so badly; or some poems of Catullus, one of the earliest and, for many, the greatest of Rome's love poets.

## THE WORK

On the language side, you will be expanding your knowledge of Latin through a series of exercises, regular vocabulary tests and unseen translations. On the literature side, you will work as a group to produce a working translation of the set texts, as well as advancing your appreciation of their literary merits.

## THE ASSESSMENT

You will be assessed through four externally-assessed exams, two on language and two on literature.

### WHERE COULD IT TAKE ME?

Latin is highly valued by university admissions tutors and by employers. They might not always know what the subject involves, but they do know it is hard.

### FURTHER STUDY

- Latin
- Medicine
- Classics and Philosophy
- English and Latin Literature
- Latin with French
- Law

### CAREER IDEAS

- Teaching
- Journalism
- Librarian
- Medicine
- Translator
- Law
- Research



**Marcus Wells**  
Kings School

SEE ALSO:

- History
- Law: Applied
- Politics

# LAW

AT PETER SYMONDS

**ADDITIONAL  
GRADE REQUIREMENTS**

Grade 5 or above in English and another essay-based GCSE subject.



## THE COURSE

Have you ever wondered: Why do we need law? How are laws made? How do Judges make decisions? What are the different types of court and how do they operate? How do people become Solicitors or Barristers?

Do you want to know about offences such as murder and theft? Do you want to understand negligence and contracts?

A Level Law provides an introduction to a fascinating subject, one which covers many aspects of life.

You will develop an understanding of law and how it works, and learn more about society from a legal perspective – both contemporary and historical. As well as learning about the interaction between law and morals, and justice and society, you will look at different areas of law – criminal, tort and contract. You will make connections with business, economics, history, politics and technology, and develop academic skills including analysis and evaluation.

## THE WORK

Activities include lectures, discussions, group work, research and essay writing. You will be given study booklets which reduce the burden of note-taking – but be aware that there is a lot of reading. You will practise exam questions regularly in order to build your confidence and exam technique. You will need to be organised and thorough in your command of detail, have a mature approach to independent learning and be willing to contribute to class discussion. There will be the opportunity to visit courts, take part in mock trials and listen to guest speakers including Magistrates, University Lecturers and ex-students who are now practising lawyers. This will help you to experience the law in action, and to bring the subject to life.

## THE ASSESSMENT

Assessment will be by means of exams: Legal System and Criminal Law (33.3%), Law Making and Law of Tort (33.3%), and Nature of Law and Law of Contract (33.3%).



**Rhia Gill**  
Thornden School

### WHERE COULD IT TAKE ME?

The A Level gives an excellent introduction for students who want to read Law at university or start a legal apprenticeship. It demystifies the law. Universities recognise the advantages of A Level Law. The course has been developed following the advice of teachers, students and universities. A Level Law is not just for those who want to enter the legal professions; it is a well-respected subject and links well with science, humanities and social science subjects.

### FURTHER STUDY

- Law
- Science
- Humanities
- History
- Sociology
- Philosophy
- Economics
- Business

### CAREER IDEAS

- Barrister
- Solicitor
- Legal executive
- Paralegal
- Tax advising
- Conveyancer
- Patent attorney
- Historian

# LAW: APPLIED

AT PETER SYMONDS

## THE COURSE

The Extended Certificate is a two year course and consists of four units: three mandatory and one optional, and is equivalent to one A Level.

The mandatory units include:

- Dispute Solving in the Legal System
- Aspects of Criminal Law and the Legal System
- Applying the Criminal Law
- Plus one optional Civil Law unit

## THE WORK

Due to the diverse nature of the course, a wide variety of teaching and learning styles will be utilised by teachers including group work, presentations and individual assignments.

You may research topics and present the results in numerous ways other than as written text, often applying your research, skills and knowledge to specific work-related contexts and case studies. Where appropriate, group interaction can often play a part; for example, through teamwork and role-play you will work collaboratively on certain key parts of your studies, just as you would in the workplace. In many parts of your programme of study you will learn in an applied and practical way.

## THE ASSESSMENT

One unit in each year is assessed through internal coursework, and one is assessed through a controlled assessment under exam conditions. For the controlled assessments students receive a pre-release paper from which to research, and may have notes in the exam.

Suzanna Fialkowska  
Harrow Way Community School



“BTEC Law is very interesting because it doesn’t focus on just the law itself, it also focuses on topics such as how laws are broken down into sections before they are passed. Studying Law has also encouraged me to do my work and keep on top of it.”

Suzanna Fialkowska



Kacper Gagatek  
Regents Park  
Community College

Subjects  
Computer Science  
Law  
Mathematics  
Spanish



“Peter Symonds really stands out for its student support, resources available and teaching quality in lessons.”

Kacper Gagatek

## WHERE COULD IT TAKE ME?

Higher education establishments and industry both recognise the BTEC in Law. The course is suitable for those who have a keen interest in following a career in the wider field of law and wish to embark directly on employment or an apprenticeship after completing the award, as well as those who wish to study at university.

## FURTHER STUDY

- Law
- Legal Executive training
- Solicitor apprenticeship
- Law apprenticeship
- Public Service
- Humanities
- Social Sciences

## CAREER IDEAS

- Legal Executive
- Paralegal
- Tax advising
- Conveyancer
- Legal secretary
- Solicitor

SEE ALSO:

- Economics
- Further Mathematics
- Mathematics: Statistics

# MATHEMATICS

AT PETER SYMONDS

## ADDITIONAL GRADE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 7 or above in  
Maths GCSE.



## THE COURSE

This is a step up from GCSE and is a demanding course. There is much support both in and out of the classroom and numerous resources available to maths students. Success depends on your willingness to engage, persevere and make full use of what is on offer.

Mathematics requires us to be creative, curious and systematic. We cannot approach it as a list of methods to learn – we have to look deeper and see the connections. Two-thirds of the content is pure maths: algebra and graphs. The other third is a mix of statistics and mechanics. As well as the familiar, such as solving equations, trigonometry and sequences, you will meet new functions including logarithms and the exponential function.

Calculus, developed by Newton, will allow you to analyse functions and their graphs more thoroughly; in turn you will be able to model the real world more accurately. Inevitably, this will require you to develop your algebraic methods and be creative in solving the more involved equations that arise.

There is a significant emphasis on modelling and problem solving. You will need to understand the ideas behind the methods and be able to adapt them to given situations. You will use the Binomial and Normal distributions to model a wide range of statistical situations and you will model the movement of objects in a mechanical context, in one and two dimensions. Central to this is the analysis of forces and Newton's laws of motion.

## THE WORK

Lessons will include activities such as investigations, class discussions, collaborative working and opportunities to apply your understanding. You will make extensive use of graphical calculators to develop your thinking, check your working and save time.

You will practise the methods and develop your understanding by tackling a wide range of problems. You will be set weekly homework to review both recent and past topics, and regular tests will help you revise as we go along.

## THE ASSESSMENT

Assessment will be by means of three exams at the end of the two years.



Orlando Prugel-Bennett  
Romsey School

“I think that the transferable skills from mathematics are incredibly useful in combination with any other A Levels, as the problem solving mindset can be applied to any other subject.”

Orlando Prugel-Bennett

Izzy Harrison  
The Henry Beaufort School

## Subjects

- Environmental Science
- Maths
- Further Maths
- Physics



“I have gained confidence in my learning, and have learnt to persevere even when something seems hard. I am more independent with my learning but also work as a team when required.”

Izzy Harrison

## WHERE COULD IT TAKE ME?

Mathematics is well thought of by employers; it is a good A Level to demonstrate that you can think logically. Problem solving will develop your resilience and ability to think strategically, something that is appreciated in many careers. It is essential for those studying courses with a high level of maths content such as Mathematics, Physics, Engineering, Computer Science and some Economics courses. It is highly desirable for many other courses, such as Medicine and the sciences.

## FURTHER STUDY

- Mathematics
- Economics
- Engineering
- Computing/IT
- Physics
- Applied Mathematics
- Chemistry

## CAREER IDEAS

- Computing/IT
- Statistician
- Systems developer
- Financial trading
- Insurance
- Engineering
- Architect
- Economist



SEE ALSO:

- Economics
- Mathematics
- Mathematics:  
Statistics

# FURTHER MATHEMATICS

AT PETER SYMONDS

**ADDITIONAL  
GRADE REQUIREMENTS**

Grade 7 or above in  
Maths GCSE.



## THE COURSE

In Further Mathematics, we aim to help you to become an exceptional mathematician by taking you deeper into a great mathematical journey. The course will help you to develop skills and confidence in tackling the most complex and unfamiliar problems. We will help you to appreciate the power of mathematics in solving real world problems, and to challenge and extend your own understanding.

We have chosen to follow the MEI Further Maths syllabus, because of the variety of content contained within the course and the opportunity to specialise in an area of mathematics relevant to your future degree or career. Whilst improving your algebraic skills and ability to structure mathematical arguments, you will become better at analysing problems and develop a more resilient approach to problem solving.

Further Mathematics A Level is taken in addition to Mathematics A Level and our schemes of learning have been structured specifically to allow students to extend topics in Further Mathematics, having seen them first in A Level Mathematics. Ultimately, this course should equip you with the necessary skills to thrive in any degree or career with significant mathematical content.

### WHERE COULD IT TAKE ME?

People with very good mathematics skills and qualifications will have an excellent choice of careers that are interesting, rewarding and often well-paid. Further Mathematics is required by the most selective universities for a degree in Mathematics. It will also be an advantage to anyone doing a highly mathematical degree, such as Physics, traditional Engineering or Computer Science.

### FURTHER STUDY

- Mathematics
- Economics
- Engineering
- Computing/IT
- Physics
- Applied Mathematics
- Chemistry

### CAREER IDEAS

- Accountancy
- Surveying
- Computing/IT
- Statistician
- Systems developer
- Financial trading
- Insurance
- Engineering

Year 1 Core Pure component includes complex numbers, matrices and proof. You will also study Algorithms and Mechanics. Year 2 contains extended study in Core Pure mathematics and then your choice of a specialised unit.

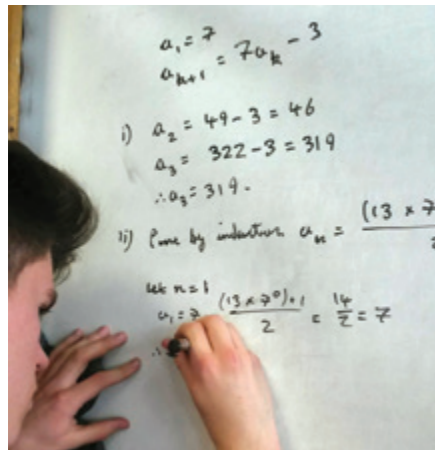
Uniquely, students can decide to sit an AS Level in Further Mathematics at the end of Year 1.

## THE WORK

Challenges will be more demanding and problems will be more complex, requiring multi-stage thought processes. Many of the techniques encountered will build on skills and knowledge acquired in the Mathematics A Level course. While there will be discussions and collaborative work, you will need to focus and apply your understanding with more care. Students will need to be highly organised and there is an expectation that you will complete all the homework set, so that you may sharpen and refine your mathematical skills and your understanding of the processes involved.

## THE ASSESSMENT

Assessment will be by a series of exams at the end of the two year course.



SEE ALSO:

- Economics
- Mathematics
- Further  
Mathematics

# MATHEMATICS: STATISTICS

AT PETER SYMONDS

**ADDITIONAL  
GRADE REQUIREMENTS**

Grade 6 or above in  
Maths GCSE.



## THE COURSE

Many subjects at degree level require the ability to work confidently with data: A Level Statistics will give you that ability.

The course offers students who have a good understanding of Mathematics at GCSE the chance to study how statistical methods are applied to make sense of the world around us.

The course covers Data and Probability, Statistical Inference and Statistics in Practice. The challenge will be to deduce and interpret information from statistical distributions, being wary of extrapolation and understanding why correlation does not imply causality.

Students wishing to study Medicine at university often pick Mathematics as their third subject, but Statistics may be a suitable alternative as it is a strong, highly regarded A Level but without the focus on algebra. It is always worth checking with the university Admissions Department if there is a preferred subject. The course is not for you if you wish to pursue a career in Engineering, Physics or Architecture, or to study Mathematics at university: for these courses you must study Mathematics at A Level. You cannot study both A Level Mathematics and Statistics.

## THE WORK

The approach to the course will be investigative, analysing real-life data models that bring statistics to life. There will be a chance to adopt a more hands-on approach with practical activities. There is little algebra but a graphical calculator is essential.

## THE ASSESSMENT

Assessment will be by means of three exams at the end of the two years.



Matias Soedring  
The Westgate School

### WHERE COULD IT TAKE ME?

The fundamental statistical and lateral thinking skills you develop will be invaluable across all kinds of disciplines and careers. The ability to understand and analyse data is an increasingly important skill in a world of constant change.

### FURTHER STUDY

- Biology
- Economics
- Business Studies
- Accounting
- Psychology
- Geography
- Geology

### CAREER IDEAS

- Accountancy
- Finance
- Insurance
- Law
- Pharmacy
- Management
- Medicine
- Civil service

SEE ALSO:

- Film Studies
- Media: Digital Media

# MEDIA STUDIES

AT PETER SYMONDS



## THE COURSE

The media is a dynamic and vital part of contemporary culture. This course provides you with the opportunity to explore a wide range of media forms, from television programmes, music videos and magazines to video games, vlogs and social media. Throughout the course you will develop an understanding of key critical debates in the subject. You will explore the role that the media plays in shaping our understanding of events, issues and groups, as well as looking at the cultural and institutional contexts in which media production and



consumption take place. You will also have the opportunity to put theory into practice through planning and producing a range of media products.

**Year 1:** In the first year you will be introduced to some of the main critical approaches in the subject, developing an understanding of how media texts convey their messages and meanings, as well as considering debates regarding media representations and audience response. You will also have comprehensive DSLR and Photoshop training in order to prepare for Year 2 practical work: the planning and production of a film marketing campaign.

**Year 2:** During the second year you will study a broader range of texts, including examples produced outside the commercial mainstream, as well as looking at more advanced critical theories. You will also apply your knowledge of the theoretical framework to the planning and production of a cross-media production in music marketing.

## THE WORK

You will spend time analysing media products in relation to their key cultural and industrial contexts, using relevant critical theories. In addition, practical elements will involve you creating media products including music videos and magazines according to a set brief.

## THE ASSESSMENT

Assessment will be through a combination of written examinations (70%) and coursework creating your own media production (30%).



Jasmine Kelly  
Perins School

“Media Studies is really interesting and I’m looking forward to making a music video next year. The ‘set texts’ are a range of several different media forms so we cover everything.”

Jasmine Kelly

Theo Lloyd  
Kings School

## Subjects

- Media Studies
- English Language and Literature
- Photography

## Activities

- Recreational Basketball



“I really like the practical aspect of Media Studies. The teachers are extremely supportive and are great at helping out with the theory.”

Theo Lloyd

## WHERE COULD IT TAKE ME?

This course provides an excellent foundation for a wide variety of media-related careers, from journalism and PR to film and television production. It also serves as useful preparation for higher education, where you could develop a range of academic skills in analysis, research, communication and the application of theory.

## FURTHER STUDY

- Media Production
- Film Studies
- Electronic Media
- Communications and Digital Culture
- Digital Marketing
- Communications
- English and Journalism

## CAREER IDEAS

- Journalism
- Public relations
- Publishing
- Video editing
- TV/film production
- Research
- Broadcasting
- Marketing

SEE ALSO:

- Film Studies
- Media Studies

# MEDIA: DIGITAL MEDIA

AT PETER SYMONDS



## THE COURSE

This stimulating and contemporary practical media course offers a specialist pathway in moving image and audio production. This is a two year course that will lead to a Diploma, equivalent to two A Levels.

You will learn exciting new practical skills and knowledge in preparation for further study, Higher Education or the workplace. Designed in collaboration with experts spanning the breadth of the Creative Media sector, the Cambridge Technical Diploma in Digital Media focuses on the skills, knowledge and understanding that today's universities and employers demand.

### Units studied will include:

- Media products and audiences
- Pre-production and planning
- Creation of a media product
- TV and short film production
- Social media and globalisation
- Radio production
- Creation of audio-visual promos
- Visual and special effects
- Cinematography
- Advertising media
- Creation and use of sound in media

### WHERE COULD IT TAKE ME?

This course not only provides an excellent foundation for a wide variety of careers in the creative media sector, from marketing to creative advertising, but also serves as useful preparation for higher education, where you will be well-qualified for a degree in a media-related field such as Film or TV Production. The course will also give you access to higher apprenticeships in Media.

## THE WORK

The units are completed with a combination of study approaches, including classroom teaching, investigations and practical work done independently and in production groups. You will have extensive practical training in camera, audio and editing techniques and you will work on industry-style briefs with the opportunity to put theory into practice.

You will also be required to undertake a period of work experience with an employer directly involved in the media sector.

## THE ASSESSMENT

Assessment will be through a combination of external examinations (three units) and coursework (eight units). You will have the opportunity to re-sit the examinations if required. Coursework portfolios will include research, analysis, pre-production and production work. The final outcome will be in the form of a double Pass, Merit or Distinction grade following success in all the required units, and will carry UCAS points.

### FURTHER STUDY

- Media Production
- Film Studies
- Electronic Media
- Communications and Digital Culture
- Digital Marketing
- Communications
- English and Journalism

### CAREER IDEAS

- Journalism
- Public relations
- Publishing
- Video editing
- TV/film production
- Research
- Broadcasting
- Marketing



Tyrone Henry

Falkland Islands  
Community School

SEE ALSO:

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Health and Social Care

# MEDICAL SCIENCE

AT PETER SYMONDS

### ADDITIONAL GRADE REQUIREMENTS

Grades 5,5,5 or above in any combination of Maths and Science GCSEs. Cannot be studied with Biology A Level.



## THE COURSE

The Medical Science Diploma focuses on understanding the human body in health and disease and how to diagnose and treat patient health problems.

The course is designed to equip learners with the knowledge and practical skills to pursue careers in health care and medical research. The course is divided into six units split across two years:

1. Human health and disease
2. Physiological measurement techniques
3. Medical Science research methods
4. Medicines and treatment of disease
5. Clinical laboratory techniques
6. Medical case study

In year one learners will study fundamental biological principles, anatomy of major organs systems, how to carry out research to address a scientific question and physiological measurement techniques. In the second year of study, students will concentrate on how to treat diseases along with how to carry out laboratory tests to diagnose and monitor disease.

## THE WORK

The teaching will include a variety of approaches and resources. You will also be expected to work independently and use online resources. In each year of the course you will learn scientific investigation skills and techniques. There is practical work throughout the course to help you develop the skills necessary to monitor health and disease.

## THE ASSESSMENT

This course is assessed using a combination of internal (50%) and external (50%) assessment. The internal assessment will be carried out throughout the year with external examinations held in the summer term of each year.



Jamie Meaton

Test Valley School

### WHERE COULD IT TAKE ME?

This qualification equips learners with scientific knowledge and understanding, as well as practical skills that would support progression to a range of job roles within health care, for example: Nurse, Laboratory Technician, Sport Scientist, Paramedic and many others.

### FURTHER STUDY

- Nursing
- Paramedic Science
- Biology
- Health & Social Care
- Sport Science
- Psychology
- Criminology

### CAREER IDEAS

- Nurse
- Paramedic
- Social worker
- Dental nurse
- Nutrition
- Pharmacy assistant
- Laboratory researcher
- Sports scientist

SEE ALSO:

Music HSMC

Music: Digital  
Music Production

Music: Popular  
Music Performance

# MUSIC

AT PETER SYMONDS

## ADDITIONAL GRADE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 5 standard in one instrument or voice (even if exam not taken). Grade 5 theory helpful (or notation test at enrolment).



## THE COURSE

The A Level Music course is designed for students who enjoy music and want to develop their skills in performing, composing, listening and writing about music. A GCSE in Music is helpful, but you can still apply without it (and do well) if you are an experienced musician. You will, however, need to be a confident performer, at about grade 5 or above (even if you haven't taken the exam), and you'll need to be able to read music, so if you haven't already taken the grade 5 theory exam, we will help you do this, and pay for the cost of the exam after asking you to do a simple notation test at enrolment.

You can choose your favourite style in performing and free composition, and the written paper is based on a range of set works selected from film scores, classical, pop, jazz and world music.

There are plenty of opportunities to play and sing in orchestras, jazz bands and choirs. Many smaller groups (like classical ensembles and rock bands) get a chance to showcase their work in our weekly lunch time concerts. There are also lots of opportunities for solo performance, when you will be accompanied by our Head of



Cameron Rossi  
The Island Free  
School

“I like how diverse music is, I learn about everything to do with music and study everything from pop music to classical, it really broadens my musical understanding.”

Cameron Rossi

Keyboard. You will receive excellent teaching from an experienced team of A Level teachers, and the college provides free individual tuition on one instrument (or voice) per week, from a team of highly-qualified visiting teachers. Students are prepared for ABRSM exams (including Diploma).

Professional performers attend Peter Symonds to present master classes and workshops, and you will also be invited on trips to a range of live music events.

## THE WORK

Performance: weekly one-to-one instrumental or vocal lessons, recital preparation in small groups, various performing opportunities to increase your confidence, piano accompaniment from our Head of Keyboard.

Composition: writing to detailed briefs set by the board, free composition or stylistic composition, using Sibelius software. One or two lessons per week.

Analytical study of set works from the anthology, including a wider historical context, and developing listening skills. Two lessons per week.

## THE ASSESSMENT

A Level Music is a two year course. At the end of the first year you will take assessments in performance and composition, plus a written paper, which are all marked internally. At the end of the second year you will perform a solo recorded recital and complete two compositions, both assessed by the Board, and take a two-hour written exam in June.

Lilia Collier-Smith  
Robert May's School

## Subjects

Music HSMC

Maths

Psychology

## Activities

Symonds Orchestra,

Concerto ensemble

Kelso Choir

Jazz Chamber



“I've enjoyed learning about other styles of music I previously hadn't listened to much before. You always feel encouraged and your teachers always want you to do your best.”

Lilia Collier-Smith



## WHERE COULD IT TAKE ME?

Students wanting to study Music beyond PSC receive specialist higher education guidance, and progression to competitive institutions is outstanding. This guidance includes preparation for conservatoire auditions and workshops for Oxbridge/Russell Group entry requirements. Employers across many fields value the wide and varied skill-set cultivated by Music graduates, so as well as pursuing careers in the music industry music graduates can be found in numerous other walks of professional life (including accountancy, law and academia).

## FURTHER STUDY

Music degree at university

Music performance at Conservatoire

Music composition

Music recording and production

Music Technology

## CAREER IDEAS

Performing

Composing

Conducting

Song writing

Music publishing

Music teaching

Music recording/  
production

SEE ALSO:

- Music
- Music: Digital Music Production
- Music: Popular Music Performance

# MUSIC HSMC

AT PETER SYMONDS

### ADDITIONAL GRADE REQUIREMENTS

Two pieces on your 1st study instrument/voice, grade 7/8 standard and one piece of 2nd study instrument/voice (if you have one) plus audition, sight reading test and interview.



### THE COURSE

The Hampshire Specialist Music Course is designed for musically-gifted young people who are thinking seriously about pursuing a career in music. The course is designed to help you develop the skills, confidence and musical maturity you need to prepare for entry to a conservatoire or university. We also expect you to be aiming to achieve a high grade in the A Level Music qualification. Up to 12 places are offered each year.

Please note that HSMC always includes A Level Music as one of your subject options.

### THE WORK

You will receive excellent teaching from an experienced team of A Level teachers. The college also provides free individual tuition on two instruments (or voice) per week, including piano, from a team of highly-qualified visiting teachers. Students receive guidance and preparation for ABRSM exams (including Diploma).

As well as taking a key role in the College's music activities, you will have extra music rehearsals in small groups every week, including classical chamber music and small jazz ensembles.



Jacob Hartley  
Kings School

### WHERE COULD IT TAKE ME?

Students wanting to study Music beyond PSC receive specialist higher education guidance, and progression to competitive institutions is outstanding. This guidance includes preparation for conservatoire auditions and workshops for Oxbridge/Russell Group entry requirements. Employers across many fields value the wide and varied skill-set cultivated by music graduates, so as well as careers in the music industry, music graduates pursue careers in other professions (including accountancy, law and academia).

### FURTHER STUDY

- Music degree at university
- Music performance at Conservatoire
- Music composition
- Music recording and production
- Music Technology

### CAREER IDEAS

- Performing
- Composing
- Conducting
- Song writing
- Music publishing
- Music teaching
- Arts management

There are also lots of opportunities for solo performance, when you will be accompanied by our Head of Keyboard.

Professional performers attend Peter Symonds to present master classes and workshops, and you will also be invited on trips to a range of live music events.

### THE ASSESSMENT

A Level Music is a two year course. At the end of the first year you will take assessments in performance and composition, plus a written paper, which are all marked internally. At the end of the second year you will perform a solo recorded recital and complete two compositions, both assessed by the Board, and take a two-hour written exam in June.

### APPLYING

Students interested in applying for the Hampshire Specialist Music Course are invited to attend our HSMC virtual presentation on Monday 11th October 2021, starting at 6pm and finishing at 8pm. Meet staff and students, hear our students perform, look around the department and learn more about the course. See website for details.

SEE ALSO:

- Music
- Music HSMC
- Music: Popular Music Performance

# MUSIC: DIGITAL MUSIC PRODUCTION

AT PETER SYMONDS

### THE COURSE

This course takes a practical look at popular music through the use of music technology. You will study in detail music production, sequencing software and studio techniques, and music and sound for media. This course takes a practical look at popular music through the use of music technology and it's essential that you have a genuine and keen interest both in playing music and music technology.

The course makes extensive use of music production software and studio equipment. You will develop an in-depth understanding of Apple's Logic music production software and will learn how to analyse typical technical features found in popular music production.



Caitlin Randall  
Meoncross School

### THE WORK

You will learn how to use computer software and studio equipment to produce music. Practical tasks will include sequencing using Apple's Logic package and working in the recording studio. Class-based lessons will focus on developing an in-depth understanding of the techniques and principles behind music technology and how these are used in popular music production. You will also gain an understanding of how the music industry functions, and will explore current trends and developments in the music business.



### THE ASSESSMENT

Assessment will be through the completion of a series of assignments. The course has a strong practical element, therefore most of the assignments will be practical in nature. Written work will support a detailed understanding of technical concepts and terminology. Assessment for one unit will be set and marked externally.

### ADDITIONAL GRADE REQUIREMENTS

No formal GCSE music qualifications are required, nor are you expected to be able to read music notation.

### WHERE COULD IT TAKE ME?

Students who study Digital Music Production at Peter Symonds have gone on to study Music Technology and Music courses at university and music college. Many have pursued careers in the music industry. The course helps to equip you with the skills required for a career in the music industry, as well as valuable life skills such as the ability to organise people, time and resources; give the utmost attention to detail; process complex data and think logically.

### FURTHER STUDY

- Music Technology
- Music Production
- Music Studies
- Sound Engineering
- Music History
- Songwriting and Music Production

### CAREER IDEAS

- Sound engineering
- Music production
- A&R
- Promotion
- Composing
- Songwriting
- Music journalism
- Radio DJ

SEE ALSO:

- Music
- Music HSMC
- Music: Digital Music Production

# MUSIC: POPULAR MUSIC PERFORMANCE

AT PETER SYMONDS

## THE COURSE

This course aims to equip students with the skills they need to succeed as a performer. The focus is on developing a practical understanding of popular music and other related styles, through individual and ensemble rehearsal and performance. The course is suited to committed performers who may be thinking about further study or a career in the music industry, and to keen musicians who wish to continue developing their performance skills.

## THE WORK

As the focus of the course is on performance, the majority of sessions involve practical work with a focus on technique, repertoire and performance skills in the context of popular music. Practical learning is supported by classroom sessions covering theoretical aspects of popular music and the music industry. As well as developing skills as a solo performer, you will learn how to rehearse and perform effectively as a member of a group.

## THE ASSESSMENT

Two of the four units studied are assessed through internally-marked assignments, the other two through external assessment. The externally-assessed components involve both written and practical tasks. There is a strong emphasis on practical music performance and the assessment reflects this with performances and rehearsal sessions a major part of coursework assignments. Written work supports your development as a performer and focuses on planning and evaluating performances as well as developing theoretical understanding.

### ADDITIONAL GRADE REQUIREMENTS

Applicants will be required to audition to show competency on guitar, bass, keyboard, drums or vocals.

“The teachers are very passionate about the course and are excellent at what they do. It’s helped me find my passion and made me much more confident.”

Toby Leach



Toby Leach  
More House School

Zoe Lock  
Robert May's  
School

Oakley Gardiner  
Thornden School

### Subjects

- Photography
- Popular Music Performance
- Product Design

### Activities

- Contemporary Music Practitioner



“I like being able to play music with a variety of different people as well as experimenting and learning about different genres. I have gained more confidence in performing as well as in my creative ability.”

Oakley Gardiner

### WHERE COULD IT TAKE ME?

Students completing the course may wish to continue their studies at university, Music College or at a more contemporary music institution such as BIMM or ACM. The course helps equip students with the skills and confidence required to pursue a career in the music industry.

### FURTHER STUDY

- Music
- Contemporary Music
- Popular Music Studies
- Popular Music or Music Industry Studies

### CAREER IDEAS

- Session musician
- Songwriter
- Recording artist
- Producer
- Instrumental teacher

SEE ALSO:

Dance  
Drama and Theatre

# PERFORMANCE: ACTING

AT PETER SYMONDS



## THE COURSE

A professional and vocational course focused on practical performance. BTEC Performance: Acting is an exciting course designed to help you develop your acting and performance skills.

You will develop and extend all your performance skills in acting to become a versatile and experienced performer. You will perform from established scripts and also develop your own performance ideas through group-devised work. Every unit is practical and contains performance. There are five units in total; three to be studied in the first year and two in the second year. As well as being taught by our highly qualified staff, you will at times be working with industry professionals. There are numerous opportunities to experience top quality live theatre in London and beyond, including New York.

### Year 1

**Developing Skills and Techniques:** This unit is about developing the skills required to use the voice and body to explore performance skills in a creative context. It enables you to develop a range of approaches to acting through studying different acting skills and techniques and applying them to performance. Internally assessed.

**Acting Styles:** This unit enables you to develop a range of approaches to acting through studying different acting styles and applying them to performance. You will rehearse and perform two contrasting performances of scenes drawn from scripted plays. Internally assessed.

**Physical Theatre Techniques:** You will explore and develop physical theatre forms and techniques and apply them to performance for a live audience. Internally assessed.

### Year 2

**Storytelling:** This unit develops your skills in creating performance for different target audiences. You will explore and develop performance ideas utilising a variety of performance skills and techniques, such as puppetry and song. Internally assessed.

**Group Performance Workshop:** This unit requires you to develop a performance as part of a group. You are required to follow a process of warm-up, devising, rehearsal techniques and final performance. Productions will be based on a variety of stimuli set down by the exam board and you will be guided through the performance process through a series of workshops and rehearsal. You will also work with professional companies to gain valuable insight into the profession. Externally assessed.

## THE WORK

We encourage you to explore theatrical ideas in a practical way, creating a variety of performances which will develop a range of performance skills. The course is taught through a combination of practical workshops, student-led research, rehearsal and performance evaluation.

## THE ASSESSMENT

You are rewarded along the way for consistent hard work, without the added pressure of exams at the end. The course is totally assessed through a range of assignments, predominantly performances, and some focused coursework. In the final year there is an externally-assessed unit which will be set by the exam board. This assessment will involve a five week exam period which will culminate in a final assessment taking place in May/June.



Ellie Mathieson  
Robert May's  
School

Denz Martinez de Sousa e Santos  
Mayville High School

Denz Martinez de  
Sousa e Santos  
Mayville High School

### Subjects

Biology  
Chemistry  
Mathematics  
Performance: Acting

### Activities

A Company of Fools



“What I love most about Performance: Acting is the variety of styles you get to perform in as it really helps you to develop as a performer and highlights what you’re best at and what style needs more work.”

Denz Martinez de Sousa e Santos

### WHERE COULD IT TAKE ME?

BTEC Performance: Acting will give you the skills you need to develop to the next stage, either into drama school or theatre-related courses at university. This course will also support those students who wish to take Drama or Performance as a joint honours course, or who are looking to develop valuable confidence, teamwork and presentation skills into other subject areas or the world of work.

### FURTHER STUDY

Performing Arts  
Drama/Theatre  
Studies  
Drama and  
Cinematics  
Drama and Dance  
Acting

### CAREER IDEAS

Acting  
Directing  
Drama therapy  
Stage management  
Teaching  
Singing  
Dance  
Musician

SEE ALSO:

Psychology  
Sociology

# PHILOSOPHY

AT PETER SYMONDS



## THE COURSE

A Level Philosophy will enable you to gain a thorough grounding in key philosophical concepts and methods. You will have the opportunity to engage with some of the biggest questions there are, such as: What is knowledge? Where does our knowledge come from? Can we trust the evidence of our senses? How do I make moral decisions? How do we tell right from wrong? Are right and wrong different in different countries? Does the idea of God make sense? Are there any arguments that prove that God exists? Do we have a mind? Can neuroscience explain why we do what we do? Strong skills in written communication and logic are required to do well on this course.

## THE WORK

You will develop important and transferable skills. You will need to be clear and precise in your thinking and your writing as you engage with complex texts, analysing and evaluating the arguments of others as well as constructing and defending your own arguments. There will be extensive reading. You will take part in group activities, classroom discussions, timed essay writing and note-taking activities.

## THE ASSESSMENT

You will be assessed through two exams at the end of your course.



Nadiya Khair  
Perins School

## WHERE COULD IT TAKE ME?

Philosophy develops excellent transferable skills: analysis, evaluation, critical thinking, the ability to construct sound and valid arguments, and the awareness to spot flaws and assumptions in others. It complements many other areas of study including Politics, History, Sociology, English, Biology, Chemistry, Music and Mathematics. It is a highly regarded and rigorous academic subject that will be of value in a wide range of careers.



## FURTHER STUDY

Philosophy  
Law and Ethics  
Theology  
Sociology  
Ethical Hacking and Cybersecurity  
Philosophy, Politics and Economics

## CAREER IDEAS

Law  
Local government  
Psychotherapist  
Lecturer  
Medicine  
Pharmacist  
Journalist  
Marketing

SEE ALSO:

Sport

# PHYSICAL EDUCATION

AT PETER SYMONDS

## ADDITIONAL GRADE REQUIREMENTS

Grades 4 & 5 or above in two single sciences or combined science GCSE.



## THE COURSE

The A Level PE course expands on many of the ideas and concepts you will have already encountered in school PE lessons. You will study contemporary topics in sport to further your knowledge and understanding of the importance of exercise and activity to personal, social and mental health and wellbeing. The wide variety of teaching styles used will encourage you to develop a capacity for critical thinking and appreciate the relationship between the diverse aspects of physical education and sport.

## THE WORK

**Year 1:** The theoretical element includes the study of applied anatomy and exercise; physiology including musculo-skeletal, cardio-respiratory and neuromuscular; diet, nutrition and training. You will learn about biomechanical movement, studying Newton's laws, levers and movement analysis.

You will look at how skills are acquired, theories of learning and skill development as well as the use of guidance and feedback. The area of sport psychology focuses on group dynamics and the psychological factors influencing an individual and their performance.

Factors leading to the emergence of modern sport and the impact of society will also be studied, as will the role of technology in physical activity, sport and analysis.

**Year 2:** In addition to the concepts studied in the first year, you will learn about theoretical elements which include applied anatomy and exercise physiology, with a focus on energy systems, injury prevention and rehabilitation. Biomechanical movement considering studies of motion and fluid mechanics, and the impact sport psychology has on leadership, confidence and stress management, will also be studied. You will consider the ethics in sport, as well as learn about talent identification and commercialism in sport. The increasing development of technological equipment and facilities will be discussed, as well as the influence these have on the audience.

## THE ASSESSMENT

Assessment will be by means of exams (70%); and non-exam assessment (30%) consisting of practical assessment as a performer or coach and a related piece of coursework.



Evie Scott  
The Westgate School

## WHERE COULD IT TAKE ME?

This is a fantastic qualification for anyone who is interested in the science of sport and would like to apply that knowledge or use it as a well-respected A Level. The skills and knowledge gained can supplement many careers or be used as a main focus for those of you who want to continue the study of sport.

## FURTHER STUDY

Sports Studies  
Sports Medicine  
Physiotherapy  
Sports Science  
Sports Psychology  
Teacher Training  
Sports Business  
Sports Coaching

## CAREER IDEAS

Sports teaching  
Sports management  
Sports medicine  
Nutrition  
Sports journalism  
Sports coaching  
Personal training  
Sports therapy



# SPORT

AT PETER SYMONDS



## THE COURSE

There are three routes of study for Sport – the Extended Certificate (equivalent to one A Level), the Diploma (equivalent to two A Levels) or the Extended Diploma (equivalent to three A Levels). Depending on which qualification pathway is chosen, units will be selected from core and specialist units taught over a two year period.

**Extended Certificate:** Across all pathways, the following core units will be studied: Anatomy and Physiology; Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Well-Being; and Professional Development in the Sports Industry.

Specialist units will be taught across the following courses;

**Diploma and Extended Diploma:** Both Diploma and Extended Diploma courses consist of: Application of Fitness Testing, Skill Acquisition in Sport, Investigating Business in Sport and the Active Leisure Industry, Coaching for Performance, and Practical Sports Performance. You will also study units in Leadership in Sport, Sports Coaching, and Sports Injuries, Development and Provision of Sport and Physical Activity.

The Extended Diploma students will also study: Rules, Regulations and Officiating in Sport, Research Methods in Sport, Sports Performance Analysis and Sports Massage.

## THE WORK

The Extended Certificate course is structured to have five lessons per unit, per week, with additional support sessions in the form of course tutorials. Students are supported extensively, being guided through the assignments and given tips on information to include. The whole course is supported by an excellent Google Classroom site, as well as additional support sessions during study periods.

You will have the opportunity to undertake additional courses such as Higher Sports Leader Award (HSLA), Extended Project Qualification (EPQ), First Aid, and Child Protection in sport. There will also be an opportunity to complete sport-specific leader awards with related national governing bodies. These will provide excellent additional qualifications for prospective employment, and unit criteria will be integrated within them. The course may also involve field trips, and at the end of the first year you will have the opportunity to complete a one-week, sport industry-related work experience placement, aimed at your personal career development.

## THE ASSESSMENT

Due to the diverse nature of the course, a wide variety of teaching and learning styles will be utilised including group work, presentations and individual assignments. Many units will involve practical work, and assessment will be carried out on an individual and group basis. There will be one examined unit in addition to all other assignment-based units.



Rosie Kavanagh  
John Hanson  
Community School

“I’ve learnt how to be more independent with my work and enjoyed playing a lot of sport!”

Rosie Kavanagh

Ricky Lama

The Henry Beaufort  
School

Subjects

Sport

Activities

Primary School Sport  
Volunteer



“The teachers are dedicated and very supportive. You have a lot of responsibility on this course.”

Ricky Lama



## WHERE COULD IT TAKE ME?

This course would be most suitable for students who have a keen interest in sport, who wish to study sport into higher education or enter employment in the sporting industry. Previous students have pursued various sport-related degrees, as well as employment in personal training, sports therapy or coaching.

## FURTHER STUDY

Sports Studies  
Sports Medicine  
Physiotherapy  
Sports Science  
Sports Psychology  
Teacher Training  
Sports Business  
Sports Coaching

## CAREER IDEAS

Sports teaching  
Sports management  
Sports medicine  
Nutrition  
Sports journalism  
Sports coaching  
Personal training  
Sports therapy

SEE ALSO:

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Mathematics

# PHYSICS

AT PETER SYMONDS

### ADDITIONAL GRADE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 7,6,6 or above in any combination of Maths and Science GCSEs, to include Physics.



### THE WORK

Studying an A Level in Physics will help you to develop excellent problem solving, research and analytical skills. With these skills, you will be able to test out new ideas, as well as question and investigate pre-existing ones. Attention to detail is highly important to practical work and the ability to make accurate observations will enable you to discover the relationships between quantities in Physics. You will learn about the importance of estimation and gain an appreciation of the limitations of measurements. You will need to get to grips with a significant amount of maths, so choosing to study Mathematics alongside Physics is strongly recommended. Mathematics is the language of the universe and Physics is the poetry.

### THE ASSESSMENT

The core assessment will be by means of examination, with students also completing a range of practical activities in order to achieve their practical endorsement. These key practical activities will be recorded in their lab books throughout the year; this does not contribute to the final grade but the practical skills gained are assessed within the examination papers.

### THE COURSE

Physics is the science of the very large, such as galaxies, down to the very small quantum phenomena that occur at subatomic scales, and everything in between. By trying to find answers to fundamental questions through observation and experimentation physicists lead the search to understand the inner workings of the universe. The study of Physics at this level covers topics including particles, waves, quantum phenomena, mechanics, materials, electricity, fields, radioactivity and relativistic effects. At A Level you will begin to see the interconnections between these various areas and begin to understand the universal principles that apply to them all.



Daleep Birk  
Mountbatten School

Katie Jones  
Swanmore College of  
Technology

### Subjects

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Mathematics
- Physics

### Activities

- Biology Research Club
- Future Medics



“I enjoy all of the sciences, and physics helps to complete the picture for me. There is high quality teaching, and lots of additional support and careers advice available.”

Katie Jones

### WHERE COULD IT TAKE ME?

Studying Physics A Level develops skills that provide an excellent basis for a wide range of careers and higher education courses. It is essential (with Mathematics) for Physics and Engineering degree courses, extremely useful for STEM careers and you will find physicists in almost every industry. In the jobs market, Physics will help to give you that edge; people are generally impressed by a qualification in Physics.

### FURTHER STUDY

- Physics
- Engineering
- Mathematics
- Meteorology
- Geography
- Technology
- Programming

### CAREER IDEAS

- Engineering
- Geophysicist
- Metallurgist
- Research scientist
- Seismic interpreter
- Investment analyst
- Meteorologist
- Nuclear engineer
- Patent attorney

SEE ALSO:

History  
Law

# POLITICS

AT PETER SYMONDS



## THE COURSE

This course will appeal to those of you who want to discover answers to fundamental questions such as: How can we live together without resorting to violence? Who has the power to make decisions in society? Why is there a participation crisis in UK politics?

In the new-style Politics A Level you will cover a broad range of topics to reflect the national, ideological and international dimensions of the subject. Domestically, you will focus on government and political participation in the UK, together with our relationship with the EU. You will look at core ideologies (including conservatism, socialism and liberalism) as well as the key political thinkers, in order to explore many of the theories underpinning the UK and other political systems. Finally, you will investigate key features of global politics such as conflict, poverty and the changing world order, to provide an international perspective on current world political developments.



Josyan Ingram  
The Henry Beaufort School

“I love that my class is full of diverse opinions so we can have a proper debate. I also like that we are learning about what’s happening now in the real world.”

Josyan Ingram

## THE WORK

You will develop a range of skills including critical evaluation, analysis, problem-solving, teamwork, constructive argument and debate, and the ability to communicate effectively in written and spoken form.

In addition to classwork and independent study, there are opportunities to visit Parliament and the Supreme Court, and attend conferences held in London. A number of students also opt to extend their understanding of politics in general by attending PPE sessions offered in the Enrichment programme.

## THE ASSESSMENT

Assessment for the A Level is through three written exams at the end of the course.



Ariana Leader  
Perins School

### Subjects

Politics  
History  
Law

### Activities

Debating  
Colour Therapy



“I find politics so interesting. I especially enjoy talking about current affairs. I originally found essay questions hard, however, with practice, I’m finding them easier to write.”

Ariana Leader

### WHERE COULD IT TAKE ME?

Studying Politics equips you with many skills – notably analysis and communication – that can be transferred to a diverse number of different disciplines.

### FURTHER STUDY

Government & Politics  
International Relations  
Politics and History  
Law  
Journalism  
Economics  
Sociology  
History

### CAREER IDEAS

Civil service  
Social research  
Public relations  
Charity  
Local government  
Finance  
Law  
Journalism

SEE ALSO:

- Art: Fine Art
- Art: Photography
- Art: Textiles
- Art: Three Dimensional Design
- Graphic Communication

# PRODUCT DESIGN

AT PETER SYMONDS

### ADDITIONAL GRADE REQUIREMENTS

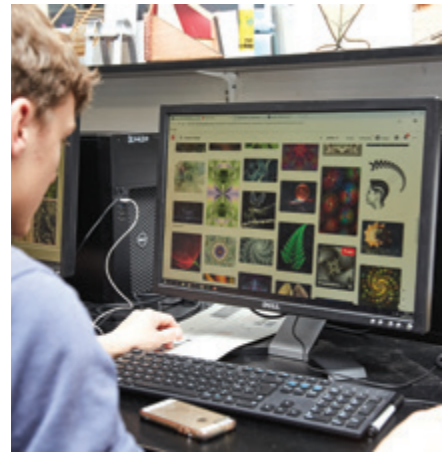
Ideally achieved Design and Technology: Product Design GCSE.

### THE ASSESSMENT

The course is divided into two main parts:

1. Core technical principles.
2. Core designing and making principles.

Both of these parts will be assessed in the final examination. A Level students will sit two papers: one lasting 2 hours that will cover core technical principles, and one lasting 1½ hours that will cover core designing and making principles. These papers will combine to make up 50% of the A Level qualification. The other 50% is for the non-examined assessment (NEA) 'design and make' project you will complete.



### THE COURSE

This is a proactive and creative course. You will need to enjoy experimenting, testing and modelling with a range of materials, machines, tools and CAD software to get the most from this course.

### THE WORK

Making products involves working with a range of materials. Only by experiencing working with materials first-hand can you start to understand their properties and the ways in which those materials can be used for a variety of purposes. When designing, you will need to understand what the user or client requires and then go on to provide them with a functional prototype, which can be tested so you and your user or client can judge how successful it is.



During Year 1 you will be taught how to work safely in a manufacturing environment. Our main aim will be to ensure that you are able to use the machines and equipment safely and accurately while becoming more independent. You will spend time testing products, materials and processes including CAD/CAM to increase your confidence in the workshop. You will also use this knowledge to help you analyse why materials and processes have been used to make a range of commercial products.

Both of these areas will help you to make decisions in your own personal project non-examined assessment (NEA) the following year.

Making sustainable choices when choosing materials, the importance of recycling, and designing products that meet current legislation will also be part of the second year of study.

15% of the content in the exam papers is Applied Maths, equivalent to GCSE Maths. Part of your study will include you working through Maths problems with a short test at the end of each section.



Tash Pell  
Kings School

### Ollie Crosland

The Henry Beaufort School

### Subjects

- Maths
- Physics
- Product Design

### Activities

- Squash team



“Product design is a great subject for anyone with a creative mind. You learn how to use different methods and techniques to create the best product for your client. For anyone wanting to do engineering or any type of project development, this subject is the closest you will get.”

Ollie Crosland

### WHERE COULD IT TAKE ME?

Our students have gone on to study a wide range of subjects for different career pathways which include product design, mechanical engineering, product design engineering, product design CAD, furniture design, automotive design and architecture.

### FURTHER STUDY

- Product Design
- Transport Design
- Industrial Design
- Interior Design
- Graphic Design
- Advertising

### CAREER IDEAS

- Architecture
- Exhibition designer
- Furniture designer
- Industrial designer
- Interior designer
- Art director
- Mechanical engineer
- Product manager

SEE ALSO:

- Criminology
- Sociology

# PSYCHOLOGY

AT PETER SYMONDS

### ADDITIONAL GRADE REQUIREMENTS

Grades 6,5,5 or above in any combination of Maths and Science GCSEs.



### THE COURSE

Psychology involves the scientific study of mental processes and behaviour. It helps you understand more about yourself and your relationships with others. It also examines the roles of our brain, hormones and unconscious on our behaviour. You will learn to analyse patterns of data from research, write structured essays, argue psychological debates, learn about the structure of our brain, and design and conduct practical investigations.

Throughout the course you will study topics on memory, attachment, social influence, psychopathology, biopsychology, research methods, approaches, relationships, issues and debates, schizophrenia and forensic psychology. These topics will help answer questions such as: How does our body know when to sleep? How can we improve our memory? Would I make a good eyewitness? What do we look for in a partner? What treatments are available for schizophrenia? How does the structure of the nervous system affect behaviour?

### THE WORK

You will carry out reading and note-taking as part of your weekly independent work outside of formal classroom teaching. Class booklets will be completed within lessons and at home. Regular marked assignments are set throughout the course. You will also be encouraged to read broadly and keep up to date with new research within the subject.

### THE ASSESSMENT

Assessment will be by means of three 2 hour exams at the end of the second year. Questions will involve multiple choice answers, short answer questions and essay style responses.



Enya Small  
Crofton School

“The content of the course is very interesting. It gives you another view that you begin to see in your normal day which I think is cool.”

Enya Small

Grace Keen  
St Swithuns School

### Subjects

- Biology
- Mathematics
- Psychology

### Activities

- Boarder's Gym



“I like the freedom that you get to study independently and I've enjoyed meeting new people. Symonds offers a lot of opportunities and a wide range of subjects with good teaching.”

Grace Keen

### WHERE COULD IT TAKE ME?

Psychology is useful for many higher education degree courses and usually counts as a science subject for university admission. More generally, it provides a useful background for a whole variety of careers including health-related fields, marketing, advertising, accountancy, teaching and personnel work.

### FURTHER STUDY

- Psychology
- Criminology
- Neuropsychology
- Occupational Psychology
- Marketing
- Business
- Sports Psychology

### CAREER IDEAS

- Forensics
- Occupational psychologist
- Careers adviser
- Marketing
- Human resources
- Market research
- Psychotherapist

SEE ALSO:

Philosophy

# RELIGIOUS STUDIES

AT PETER SYMONDS



## THE WORK

You will be introduced to new ideas that will challenge and demand a re-evaluation of conventional norms and preconceptions, and will demand a rigorous study of scholars and key texts. You will study many facets including the life of the Buddha, the four noble truths, the three marks of existence, the three refuges, the five precepts and the significance of the Pali-canon, and the distinctive practices of Theravada and Mahayana Buddhism. Other areas of study will include the design argument, the ontological argument, the nature of religious experience, the problem of evil and suffering, environmental ethics, utilitarianism, situation ethics, natural moral law, and war and peace.

## THE COURSE

Religious Studies at A Level requires students to discover the role religion plays in human history and culture. You will be introduced to the philosophical world of Buddhism and some of the major philosophical ideas concerning the existence of God, and ethical theories that question issues of right and wrong, good and bad.

## THE ASSESSMENT

You will be assessed by 3 two hour papers, one on each area of study (Buddhism, Philosophy of Religion and Ethics). Each paper is in the same format, with five compulsory questions. These consist of two short answer questions, two questions on a passage from the anthology, and one extended question that requires you to make connections between your areas of study.

### WHERE COULD IT TAKE ME?

Many of the skills you will develop through the course will relate to a wide range of careers such as working in the travel industry, public relations, journalism, TV and radio, police, medicine, teaching and jobs where the management of people is important.

### FURTHER STUDY

Religion, Culture and Society  
Sociology  
Philosophy and Ethics  
Ethics and Society  
Communications and Culture

### CAREER IDEAS

Charity  
Travel  
Civil service  
Journalism  
Social work  
Public relations  
Teaching  
Medicine

SEE ALSO:

Criminology  
Psychology

# SOCIOLOGY

AT PETER SYMONDS



## THE COURSE

Sociology is the study of society and social change. We use research evidence and a range of theories to understand the impact of society and social change on the individual, social relationships and key institutions.

### Year 1:

**Families and households:** Competing perspectives on the family and its role and function in contemporary society; family diversity and changes to patterns of marriage; demographic change and the family; the changing nature of childhood in today's society.

**Research methods:** The main theoretical, ethical and practical challenges associated with sociological research and the types of data used in social research; application of methodological debates to the challenges associated with conducting research in an educational context.

**Education:** The role and function of education and the relationship between the economy and education; explanations for differential educational attainment and class, gender and ethnicity; state policies and education; and the relationship between education and globalisation.

### Year 2:

**Beliefs in society:** The changing nature of beliefs; the relationship between secularisation, religion and science; social groups and beliefs; the global context of belief systems.

**Crime and deviance, theory and methods:** Sociological explanations for the social distribution of crime and victimisation; crime and contemporary society and the changing nature of crime; the social construction of crime and deviance; analysis of theory and methods.

## THE WORK

Our lessons include a balance between teacher-led discussions, group work, whole-class debates and independent research tasks. We use class time to help you develop your essay writing skills and utilise contemporary resources and examples to help develop your skills of analysis and evaluation. In addition to formal lessons we also offer a range of enrichment opportunities, for example guest speakers and visits to conferences.

## THE ASSESSMENT

Assessment will be by three 2 hour exams at the end of the two year period of study.



Ben Challis  
Thornden School

### WHERE COULD IT TAKE ME?

Sociology is an excellent preparatory course for a Sociology or a sociology-related degree course. The course is well-regarded by higher education institutions and provides an excellent foundation for careers in social research, teaching, social work, health-related professions, the police, human resources, marketing, advertising and non-governmental development organisations.

### FURTHER STUDY

Sociology  
Business  
Law  
Marketing  
Criminology  
Social Anthropology

### CAREER IDEAS

Business  
Child welfare  
Law  
Social work  
Urban planning  
Human resources  
International relations  
Marketing

SEE ALSO:

- French
- German
- Italian
- Latin

# SPANISH

AT PETER SYMONDS

## ADDITIONAL GRADE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 6 or above in  
Spanish GCSE.



During the course, you will study aspects of contemporary society, Hispanic culture and such topics as the changing nature of family, the impact of tourism in Spain and the world of work. We will also consider various aspects of Hispanic-speaking society such as immigration and multiculturalism. Art and culture is a feature of the course; you will look at modern day idols and the cultural identity of Spain through music, festivals and traditions, as well as aspects of political life in the Hispanic-speaking world.

## THE WORK

Your aim will be to improve your language skills, while gaining an understanding of the contemporary society, cultural background and heritage of Spain and Latin America. You will learn to speak and write at length in Spanish about all aspects of Spanish-speaking societies and cultures.

In class, you will practise all four skills and will engage in whole-class, group and pair discussions. From October to May you will also have a small group conversation session with a foreign language assistant. There is a clear independent study programme to complete outside lessons.

## THE ASSESSMENT

All four skills (speaking, listening, reading and writing) will be assessed, with cultural content forming a key part of the assessment. Assessment methods will include translation, research, presenting and speaking, writing and listening/reading comprehension.

## THE COURSE

A Level Spanish will move you on from GCSE, covering all four skills of speaking, listening, reading and writing. You will gain a greater knowledge of grammatical structures and develop accuracy in the language. Teaching is based on a thematic approach and the language is taught through a variety of contemporary issues, using authentic resources. The study of a Spanish film will be a focus in the first year.

The second year will enable you to develop your linguistic skills further, while continuing to enhance your knowledge of the Spanish language, the country and its culture. You will use the language to present viewpoints, develop, analyse and evaluate arguments both when speaking and writing. The study of a Spanish film and a book will be integral to your course.



**Matt Crouthers**  
Oaklands Catholic  
School

**Lily Wheeler**  
Brighton College

## Subjects

- English Literature
- French
- Spanish

## Activities

- Emergency First Aid
- English Etc



“My favourite part is learning about the culture of Spain – I find it so interesting. Also, the teachers are very approachable and friendly if you have a problem.”

Lily Wheeler

## WHERE COULD IT TAKE ME?

This practical, applied approach to the study of Spanish means that it will be useful to students of the arts and sciences alike. In higher education, Spanish can be studied in combination with many other courses, and many degrees, including those in the sciences. It will offer students the chance to complete part of their degree abroad. Modern languages graduates are in great demand in the job market.

## FURTHER STUDY

- Spanish Studies
- Modern Languages
- Spanish and Business
- Spanish and French
- Teacher Training
- International Relations with Spanish

## CAREER IDEAS

- Translator/interpreter
- Travel industry
- Flight attendant
- Spanish teacher
- International sales
- Journalist
- Banking/finance

# LEVEL 2 COURSES

AT PETER SYMONDS

## GCSE MATHS & ENGLISH

All students taking a Level 2 programme will be expected to take a GCSE in English and Maths if not previously achieved.



## LEVEL 2 SUBJECTS

This one year programme of study is a pathway for students who narrowly miss achieving the entry requirements for Level 3 study or students that have not had the opportunity to study a GCSE programme or equivalent. Students who successfully complete this course can apply to study Level 3 courses with us the following year.

In addition to classroom teaching and visits, work experience is included in this programme. All of our courses will seek to develop useful transferable skills such as presentation, communication and IT skills.

We offer a range of subjects for you to choose from. You will be expected to study two or three of these unless you opt for Education and Childcare which is a full time course.

### GRADE REQUIREMENTS

At least two grade 3 GCSEs, if taken.

## BUSINESS

This Cambridge Technical qualification in Business offers you an exciting opportunity to actively explore the world of business, and equips you with invaluable employability skills.

Level 2 Business students will take part in a national enterprise competition, setting up and running their own businesses. We have established excellent links with local entrepreneurs and have chosen units that will give you a range of transferable skills.

It provides a great foundation for you to progress to the more demanding Level 3 BTEC or A Level Business courses, or entering the workplace, providing you with a theoretical background reinforced with practical skills that transfer into the modern workplace. The course is exam-free so is ideal for a wide range of learning styles.

## EDUCATION AND CHILDCARE

Peter Symonds College is one of the first providers to offer this new transition programme for students wishing to progress onto the T Level qualification in Education & Childcare (see page 51). This is a full time course.

This course combines classroom theory, practical learning and an industry placement such as an early years setting or primary school. The qualification is an NCFE Cache Award.

Some of the core modules include:

The value of play for babies and young children.

Organisation in early years settings, schools and colleges.

Introduction to community development in early years settings.

Roles and responsibilities in early years settings, schools and colleges.

Child development.

Understanding communication and professional relationships with children, young people and adults.

A college assessor will visit you in the workplace to observe your practice.

## EXAMPLES OF LEVEL 2 STUDY PROGRAMMES

### STUDENT 1

Business  
ICT  
Media  
English GCSE  
+ Activity  
+ Tutorial  
+ Workshops  
+ Work experience

### STUDENT 2

Media  
Business  
Mathematics GCSE  
English GCSE  
+ Activity  
+ Tutorial  
+ Workshops  
+ Work experience

### STUDENT 3

Education and  
Childcare (full-time  
course)  
Industry placement  
Mathematics GCSE  
English GCSE  
+ Activity  
+ Tutorial  
+ Workshops



## INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

This Cambridge Technical qualification in Information and Communication Technology will equip you with sound IT skills for everyday use and provide opportunities to develop in context those desirable, transferable skills such as planning, research and analysis, working with others and communicating technical concepts effectively. Teaching is in dedicated IT classrooms.

The course consists of four units: communicating in the IT industry, working in the IT industry, digital graphics and developing computer games.

This qualification is particularly attractive because of the real-world relevance and close alignment with industrial practice. It allows you to achieve a real understanding of the subject that is a true fit with the needs of the workplace or further studies in similar subject areas.

## MEDIA STUDIES

This Cambridge Technical qualification in Media Studies offers an understanding of media industries by empowering you to work with media products, production processes and technologies. This leads to practical and creative skills that are transferable to the workplace or to production-related HE courses. Unit choices provide opportunities to study areas which could lead to work in a range of media including print, web, television and film. The course has been developed in partnership with practising tutors and teachers, as well as industry specialists and leading employers in media industries.

The course consists of four units: media products and audiences, film and TV media products, audio-visual advertising and print media production.

All learning takes place within a dedicated PC editing/DTP suite where a media instructor or technician is on hand to offer extra support. Creative media teachers and practitioners will deliver this course with an emphasis on facilitating independent learning skills, and industry based scenarios.

## NCFE CACHE: SUPPORT WORK IN SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

This qualification is an introduction to the knowledge and understanding needed to work in a school or college environment. It can apply to the many varied roles that full and part-time support staff may fulfil including: administrative roles, site support roles, technical roles and volunteers, as well as roles that work directly with children and young people in the learning environment.

This award comprises six units::

Health and safety

Safeguarding children and young people

Child development

Schools as organisations

Understand equality

Diversity and inclusion in schools and colleges

This qualification is assessed through presentations, written assignments and projects.



# VOCATIONAL COURSES

AT STONEY LANE CAMPUS  
LEVEL 2 AND LEVEL 3

Peter Symonds College offers a selection of vocational courses at our campus on Stoney Lane in Weeke, Winchester, which are open to 16–19 year old students.

Attendance patterns for our vocational courses can vary. Please refer to the relevant course outline at [www.psc.ac.uk/ahed](http://www.psc.ac.uk/ahed) for further details.

There are a mixture of students on the Stoney Lane campus studying a range of courses. Some are studying the vocational courses detailed, others are studying access to higher education courses and degree programmes, so there is a different atmosphere to the Sixth Form campus. The Stoney Lane Campus is approximately a 15 minute walk from the Sixth Form campus.

## COURSES INCLUDE:

### BEAUTY THERAPY

Level 2 qualification is full time for one year studying practical skills in facials, skincare, eyelash and brow treatments, hair removal, manicures and pedicures. On completion students can progress to a Level 3 Diploma course in Beauty Therapy the following year.

### COMPLEMENTARY THERAPIES

A comprehensive and practical course, ideal for students who want to gain a qualification in this thriving industry. The course is made up of a number of diplomas including; Body Massage, Reflexology, Aromatherapy, and Anatomy and Physiology.

### FASHION, THEATRE AND MEDIA HAIR AND MAKE-UP STUDIES

This course can be taken alongside A Levels over two years. See page 57 for full details. Alternatively this can be studied as a one year full time course.

### HAIRDRESSING

This course has been designed to develop your practical skills in the art of cutting and styling hair. You will study at Level 2 in your first year and upon successful completion progress on to the Level 3 course.



## OPEN EVENTS AT STONEY LANE

We hold separate Open Events and you are very welcome to join us for one of these:

Wednesday 1st September 2021  
2.00pm–5.00pm

Tuesday 7th September 2021  
4.30pm–7.00pm

Thursday 9th September 2021  
4.30–7.00pm

Wednesday 23rd March 2022  
4.30–7.00pm

Wednesday 8th June 2022  
4.30–7.00pm

Monday 7th July 2022  
4.30–7.00pm

### Amy Condliffe

The Henry Beaufort  
School

### Subjects

Fashion, Theatre  
and Media Hair and  
Make-up Studies  
Health and Social  
Care

### Activities

Level 2 Support Work  
in Schools



“I really enjoy the practical side of the make-up course; being able to experiment with lots of different looks. There are so many varied options for where the course could take you. The teachers are so supportive, encouraging and show lots of interest in what you want to do.”

Amy Condliffe

You can apply for our vocational courses from September and we can accept applications up until the course start date (subject to availability of places).

## HOW TO APPLY

Please visit the AHED website at [www.psc.ac.uk/ahed](http://www.psc.ac.uk/ahed) and submit an online application form or contact Reception (01962 886166) to have a hard copy application posted to you. Please return to the Stoney Lane Campus.

Peter Symonds College  
Adult & Higher Education  
Division, Stoney Lane,  
Weeke, Winchester,  
SO22 6DR

01962 886166  
[ahed@psc.ac.uk](mailto:ahed@psc.ac.uk)

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## HOW LONG IS THE COLLEGE DAY?

We start at 9.00am and end at 4.40pm. Catering facilities can be accessed throughout most of the day. Tutor sessions, workshops and some activities are also timetabled in lunchtimes across the week. The College may alter these timings for operational reasons. Students will have study periods during each day. There are likely to be some days when students will start their first lesson a bit later and other days when they go home earlier.

## ARE THERE FACILITIES TO STUDY DURING THE STUDY PERIODS?

Occupying two floors, the Ashurst Learning Resource Centre (LRC) provides a wide range of resources, study desks and computer stations for independent study. The Hopkins Study Area is for quiet study. All areas of the College have wi-fi and students can also access the College network from their own mobile devices.

## WHAT KIND OF STUDENTS COME TO PETER SYMONDS?

Our intake is very broad; we are proud to be an inclusive college. While many of our students will have done exceedingly well at GCSE, equal numbers will have more modest qualifications when they join us.

## WHAT IS THE PASTORAL CARE LIKE AT PETER SYMONDS?

We pride ourselves on the care and support given to all our students. Our motto, 'Counting in Ones', is very much put into practice by our experienced personal Tutors, who work as a team with a Lead Tutor. We see each student as an individual and work hard to meet their individual needs. Each year, feedback from students has told us that the vast majority highly value the guidance and support received from their Tutor.

## WHAT IS THE COLLEGE DRESS CODE?

While there is no uniform, we do have a dress code at the College. Clothes need to be appropriate to the working environment; offensive logos on clothing are not acceptable; faces must not be covered and students should not wear clothing that restricts the ability of others to identify them while on site or in examinations, e.g. hoods or crash helmets.

## CAN I TAKE A HOLIDAY IN TERM TIME?

The College expects students to attend all their timetabled commitments fully. All our research shows a clear link between attendance and final grades, with students who maintain over 95% attendance attaining a whole grade higher than their peers with the same GCSE profile but a lower attendance rate. We take attendance very seriously and so holidays are not permitted during term time.

## DO I NEED TO PAY ANY FEES TO ATTEND COLLEGE?

There are no tuition fees for most 16–19 year old students. We do, however, ask for a voluntary contribution of £60 to our College Fund. This is used to benefit students during their time at the College.

## CAN I GET ANY FINANCIAL HELP WHILE I'M AT COLLEGE?

We receive funds each year to help students from low income families to meet the costs associated with attending College; for example text books and other resources needed for their course. The Vulnerable Student Bursary is available to looked-after children, care leavers and students claiming Universal Credit in their own right. Please contact Student Services for more information.

Students benefit from excellent facilities and resources, such as the well-stocked learning resource centre.

Ofsted 2020

## CAN I GET FREE MEALS AT COLLEGE?

Free meals are available to college students from low income families. More information about eligibility can be obtained from Student Services.

## CAN I PARK AT COLLEGE?

There is no student parking on the College site, unless you have been authorised to park because you have a disability or you have a health problem which prevents you from using public transport. Please note that the streets closest to the College are for residents' parking only. We support and encourage the use of public transport.

## CAN I GET ANY HELP TO COVER THE COSTS OF TRANSPORT?

We have negotiated concessionary rates with some local transport providers. For students in extreme hardship, we may be able to offer some financial support towards travel costs. Contact Student Services for more details.

## CAN I CHANGE MY SUBJECT CHOICES AFTER MY INTERVIEW?

Usually we will be able to change your subjects; please email or phone the Admissions Team to discuss your choices. However, sometimes subjects become full and we may be unable to make the change that you want. Our advice is that you give serious consideration to your subjects at the Open Evening so that you are as sure as you can be about them before your interview.

## I AM CURRENTLY LIVING OVERSEAS, CAN I APPLY?

It is unusual for the College to offer day places to students who live abroad. For information on Boarding, please refer to p26/27 of the prospectus or visit [www.psc.ac.uk/boarding](http://www.psc.ac.uk/boarding).

## PUBLIC TRANSPORT

### TRAVELLING TO COLLEGE BY TRAIN

Many students choose to travel to college by train. Winchester station is a four-minute walk away.

### DISCOUNTED RAIL TRAVEL FOR STUDENTS

Students can purchase a 16–17 Saver card, which gives a 50% discount on all rail fares, including season tickets. It costs £30 and is valid for one year or until the student's 18th birthday, whichever comes first. Students can choose to buy daily, weekly, or a season ticket for a half or full term, but the greatest savings will be made on tickets that are valid for the longest period. Tickets are then purchased direct from the train companies. The 16–17 saver card can be used on all rail travel, not just travelling to College!

Once students turn 18, Scholar Season tickets are available to purchase termly through the online college shop and represent a 34% discount on the price of a normal season ticket.

### TRAVELLING TO COLLEGE BY BUS

Peter Symonds College is well served by the public bus network. It does not operate 'school buses' of its own. Both Stagecoach and Bluestar offer discounted bus travel for our students. Most Stagecoach services arrive and depart from the College site and some buses arrive at Winchester rail station, four minutes' walk away. Further information can be found on the companies' websites and at [www.psc.ac.uk](http://www.psc.ac.uk)

### STAGECOACH

[www.stagecoach.com](http://www.stagecoach.com)

### Unirider Peter Symonds College Pass

For students using Stagecoach South network.

### Winchester Megarider

For students travelling locally to college.

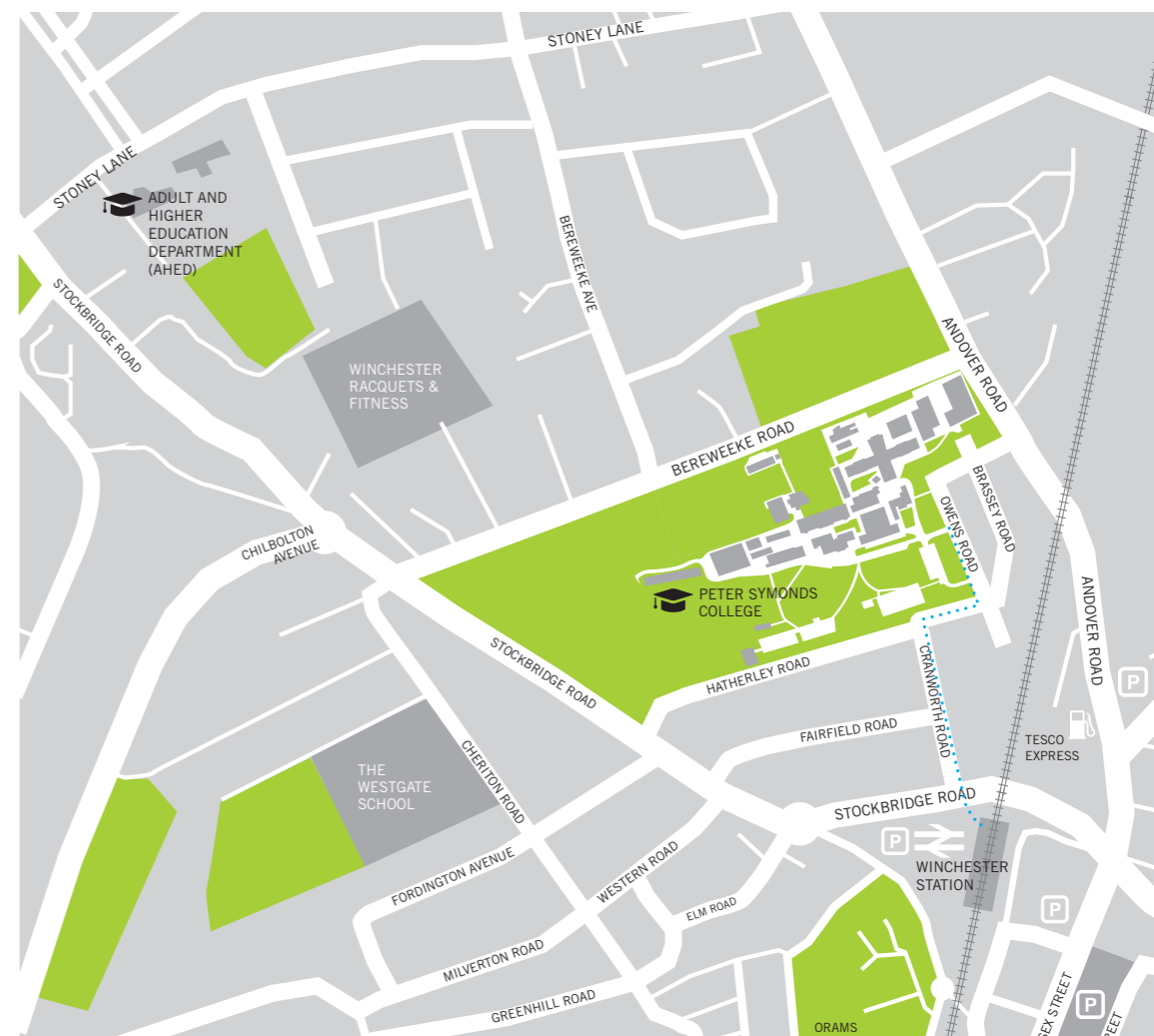
### BLUESTAR

[www.bluestarbus.co.uk](http://www.bluestarbus.co.uk)

### The Key Peter Symonds College Ticket

For students using the Bluestar network.

## LOCAL AREA MAP



# CAMPUS MAP

Peter Symonds College  
Owens Road  
Winchester  
Hampshire  
SO22 6RX.



# COURSE DIRECTORY

## LEVEL 3 COURSES

### BUSINESS & ECONOMICS

Business	40
Business <sup>1</sup>	41
Economics	50

### COMPUTER SCIENCE & IT

Computer Science	44
Information Technology <sup>1</sup>	70

### CREATIVE & VISUAL ARTS

Fashion, Theatre and Media Hair and Make-up Studies <sup>5</sup>	57
Fine Art	32
Photography	33
Textile Design	34
Three-Dimensional Design	36
Graphic Communication	64
Product Design	102

### ENGLISH

English Language	52
English Language & Literature	54
English Literature	55

### GEOGRAPHY & THE ENVIRONMENT

Environmental Science	56
Geography	61

### HEALTH, EDUCATION & CARE

Education and Childcare <sup>4</sup>	51
Health and Social Care <sup>2</sup>	66

### HISTORY, LAW & POLITICS

Classical Civilisation	43
History	68
Law	75
Law: Applied <sup>1</sup>	76
Politics	100

### LANGUAGES

French	60
German	62
Italian: Post GCSE	72
Italian: From Scratch	73
Latin	74
Spanish	108

### MATHS & STATISTICS

Mathematics	78
Further Mathematics	80
Statistics	81

### MEDIA & FILM

Film Studies	58
Media Studies	82
Media: Digital Media <sup>2</sup>	84

## LEVEL 2 COURSES

Business	110
Education and Childcare	110
English GCSE	110
ICT	110
Mathematics GCSE	110
Media Studies	110
NCFE Cache Support Work in Schools and Colleges	110
Vocational Courses at Stoney Lane Campus	112

### MUSIC & PERFORMING ARTS

Dance	46
Digital Music Production <sup>1</sup>	89
Drama and Theatre	48
Music	86
Music: HSMC	88
Popular Music Performance <sup>1</sup>	90
Performance: Acting <sup>1</sup>	92

### PHILOSOPHY & RELIGION

Philosophy	94
Religious Studies	106

### SCIENCES

Biology	38
Chemistry	42
Medical Science <sup>3</sup>	85
Physics	98

### SOCIAL SCIENCES

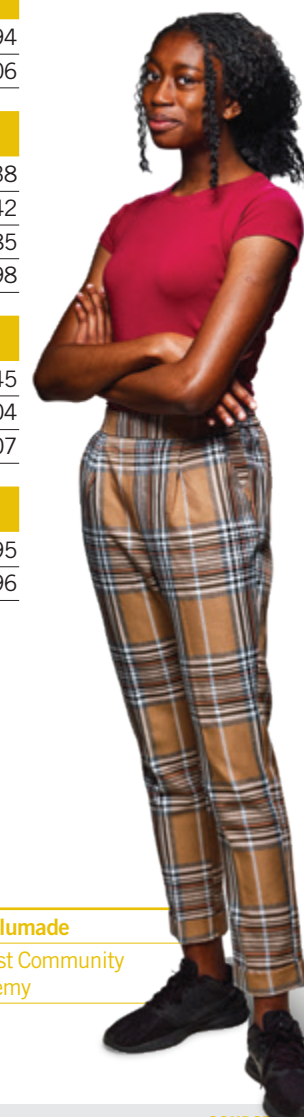
Criminology <sup>3</sup>	45
Psychology	104
Sociology	107

### SPORT & PE

Physical Education	95
Sport <sup>1</sup>	96

All level 3 courses are A Level, apart from those marked:

1. BTEC courses
2. Cambridge Technical courses
3. EDUQAS Diploma courses
4. T Level course
5. VTCT Diploma course (32 UCAS points)



**Ayo Olumade**  
Everest Community Academy

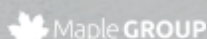
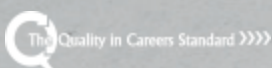


“I liked the opportunity to explore creative work outside my mostly theoretical subjects. Peter Symonds College gives you the freedom to explore education how you see fit.”

Eesaa Sadiq

“The support offered at Peter Symonds is brilliant. Whether that involves queries to do with a subject, career options or just general well-being, you are never far way from a helping hand, and weekly tutor sessions give you an opportunity to catch up with your tutor on how you are coping at college.”

Emma Struckman



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