

Sixth Form at Lucton School





Michael Wolstenholme

Head of Sixth Form

As you would expect of a school like Lucton, the Sixth Form here is truly unique. We aim to provide a collegiate atmosphere that is large enough to provide a stimulating educational and social environment, yet small enough for each student to be known, understood and appreciated as an individual. It is also a part of the school in which we heavily invest. The most obvious feature of this investment is the small class sizes we offer in all subjects, and the amount of guidance and support we are therefore able to give to each student. Being able to support students on an individual basis is important. All Level Three qualifications, but most obviously A-levels, are hard! However, we see it as our job as Sixth Form teachers and tutors to ensure, so far as it is within our power, that our students develop their learning skills, understanding and knowledge so that they are able to succeed both in the Sixth Form and beyond, since by far the majority of our students go on to university.

The Sixth Form is not all about academic attainment, however. Universities and employers are rightly concerned about the whole person, and so are we. We offer all our Sixth Form students so many opportunities for personal growth and development, through membership of the Prefect and Senior Prefect teams, form and house activities, the CCF, school sport, music, drama and so on. It is our aim to produce not only students with the academic qualifications to move on successfully to the next stage of their lives, but also with the confidence and personal skills needed to help them make the most of their opportunities in the years ahead. This is why when Lucton students go up to university or into the work place, they inevitably make the transition with ease.

Head Boy Fin Franke

"I grew up in Germany but moved to England to study at Lucton School in Year 10. My family and I felt that I would benefit from a more complete education than I was experiencing at the time and Lucton appealed particularly because of the range of sport on offer as well as cadets. One of the things I love is the small class sizes in the sixth form. Rather than being taught in classes of 30 and being talked at by the teachers, the staff in the sixth form treat you with respect and lessons often feel like a discussion around the dinner table as opposed to a formal class. All of my teachers are really inspiring and I sometimes choose to stay with them at breaktimes to continue the conversation and learn more about my subjects. When I joined I had very little interest in maths and history but the teachers made the subjects really interesting, so much so that I have ended up taking both these subjects at A Level!

I plan to study either Economics or International Business at a German university when I return next year, but I've loved studying in England and will probably return to complete a master's degree in a few years' time. Studying at Lucton has been an excellent decision for me and I will leave with many happy memories and a love of rugby!"





"I've actually been at Lucton since Nursery! I could have gone elsewhere for Sixth Form but I felt there was far more to gain by continuing in an environment that I felt comfortable in. The teaching at Lucton is excellent and it was one of the main reasons that I wanted to stay here. All of the teachers are so passionate about their subjects and genuinely go beyond what is required of them to ensure that you understand everything and are confident and fully prepared for exams. Some of my friends went to bigger colleges after their GCSEs and felt that they had been lost in the crowd, but here there is a real family feel and it's very easy to get help when you need it. I've also made so many great friends from all over the world and learnt first-hand about different cultures which is an experience that I don't think I would have got had I studied elsewhere.

I am currently studying biology, psychology and history A Levels and plan to read psychology at university but whilst being in the sixth form I've had so many extra opportunities to develop myself. I have been able to achieve my Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award, I've continued to play regional level netball, and through the prefect system, become Head Girl, which is a great achievement and something that has stood out on my university applications. There are many things that I will miss about Lucton but I've developed a self-confidence that I'm sure will help me in the future."

Head Girl Millie Bufton

Subjects



Art & Design

AQA Art & Design 7241/7246

The creative industries sector is the UK's fastest growing and largest employer. Broad and diverse, A Level Art concentrates on developing individuality and nurturing the fundamental critical and contextual awareness required to succeed within this industry. In their first year, students will be introduced to a wide variety of innovative creative processes and be encouraged to develop their own ideas and techniques. Areas covered include various forms of mark making, textiles, print processes, dye techniques including shibori, marbling, batik and much more. Although no written exam is sat, assessment is by a series of set tasks and personal assignments in a topic of their choice.

Art is an excellent alternative to traditionally academic subjects and many of the skills developed on the course, including creative problem solving and contextual perception, complement a huge variety of subjects including history, English and music.

Biology

OCR Biology A, H020/H420

The broad course offered in A Level Biology begins by studying microbiology (biochemistry, genetics, biotechnology and anatomy) before moving on to the study of microbiology (ecosystems, evolution and conservation). The topics taught allow for a vast array of experiments, most of which students will not have encountered before, and there are also opportunities to develop and apply field work skills, particularly during the annual Swansea residential field trip. During this trip, students have the opportunity to conduct an ecosystem study at Bracelet Bay, a succession study at Swansea Bay and a visit to the College of Science at Swansea University.

Biology links perfectly with many other A Level subjects including geography, chemistry and psychology and studying biology in combination with any of these subjects will dramatically increase both the choices of courses available at university and job opportunities.

Chemistry

OCR Chemistry OCR H032/H432

Building upon the knowledge and skills developed during GCSE, A Level Chemistry is a fascinating, engaging and challenging subject with an emphasis on developing research, problem solving and analytical skills. During their first year, students study a total of four modules. These modules cover the development of practical laboratory skills, foundations in chemistry, the periodic table and energy, and core organic chemistry and analysis. As the course progresses, students study a further two modules on physical chemistry and transition elements and organic chemistry and analysis.

There is also plenty of opportunity to carry out experimental and investigative practical work and students also have the chance to compete in prestigious national competitions including the Cambridge Chemistry Challenge and the Royal Society of Chemistry Olympiad. Chemistry is a numerate subject and as such, is a good choice for those wishing to pursue pathways in medicine, law, accountancy and, of course, science.

Design & Technology: Product Design

Edexcel AS and A Level Design & Technology - Product Design

Design and Technology is a challenging hands-on subject, which allows students to explore their creativity whilst learning a series of useful, practical skills. Available as both an AS and A Level, the course covers a broad but focussed curriculum that has considerable scope for highly individual outcomes.

Topics studied include material characteristics, advanced processes and techniques, digital technologies, effects of technological developments and manufacturing industries. A major component of the second year is the Independent Design and Make Project, where students produce a small-scale design, make and evaluate project which requires them to respond to a realistic design brief whilst taking into account the needs and wants of the user. Students benefit from a well equipped workshop and expert teaching, and by the end of the course will be able to recognise and respond effectively to design needs and have an understanding of how current global issues, including integrating technology, impacts on today's world.

Drama & Theatre Studies

AQA Drama & Theatre 7261/7262

Drama and Theatre Studies is an exciting course that gives students the tools to develop a comprehensive understanding of drama and theatre performance. Students have the opportunity to develop a broad range of skills and techniques both on stage and off, and to specialise in areas including acting, directing, set composition, lighting, sound and costume design. The course emphasises practical creativity alongside research and theoretical understanding and students are introduced to a variety of theatrical styles and contexts as they explore plays practically and refine their performance skills. They also have the opportunity to create original drama by writing and performing their own productions. Studying drama builds both confidence, resilience and maturity which not only complement many other subjects, but are also valuable life skills that will benefit students in the future. Assessment is primarily practical (60%) with the remainder coming via written exam.

Economics

OCR Economics H060/H460

A Level Economics encourages students to 'think as economists' and develop the appropriate analytical, questioning and reasoning skill set required. Students learn how to select and interpret economic data and graphical representations of economic problems as well as understand their possible limitations. They are introduced to many interesting topics including micro and macroeconomic concepts, market structures and the labour market, aggregate supply and demand, and the impact of globalisation.

Students are encouraged to make reasoned and informed judgements using both qualitative and quantitative evidence and to apply the concepts and techniques they have learned to 'real world' issues and to current and historical contexts. Numerical and analytical awareness and the ability to problem solve are just a few of the valuable skills developed through this course, as well as essay-writing skills and the ability to evaluate. Many students choose to pursue a wide range of degrees relating to Economics, including business, history and finance.

English Literature

Edexcel 9ET0

For students that are passionate about reading, forming strong viewpoints and discussing their opinions, A Level English Literature is an excellent choice. The course examines poetry, prose and modern and classic drama including texts by Shakespeare, Tennessee Williams and Thomas Hardy. The course provides a solid overview of how writers use dramatic devices to shape meaning and evoke responses in audiences and students learn to communicate their understanding and knowledge fluently, accurately and effectively.

A Level English places strong emphasis on developing independent study skills and essay writing and, as such, is particularly well respected by UK universities. It also complements any A Level combination but works especially well with art, drama and humanities subjects including languages, history and economics. Past students have progressed to university in subjects as varied as journalism, law and politics.

Further Mathematics

Edexcel 9FM0

Further Mathematics is designed for students wishing to study mathematics, engineering, the sciences or economics at degree level. The qualification is both deeper and broader than A Level Mathematics. As well as building on algebra and calculus introduced in A Level Mathematics, the pure content introduces complex numbers, matrices, polar coordinates, hyperbolic functions, differential equations and fundamental mathematical ideas with wide applications in mathematics, engineering, physical sciences and computing. Applied modules in Decision Mathematics are an excellent introduction to discrete maths, concentrating on algorithms and how pure maths is used for real world modelling. For some mathematics (or mathematics-based) degree courses at Oxford, Cambridge and some Russell Group universities, it is a requirement.

Students who would like to study maths, physics or engineering are strongly recommended to study Further Maths; it can help secure offers from some of the top universities and ease the transition from A Level to degree level study.





Geography

AQA A Level Geography 7036/7037

A Level Geography encourages students to consider the impact that human processes are having on the physical geography of our planet. The course integrates both human and physical geography and covers a broad mix of topics including water and carbon cycles, coasts and natural hazards, globalisation and urbanisation. During the course students develop the skills required to process and analyse raw data as well as write insightful essays.

Through enthusiastic teaching, debating and fieldtrips, all pupils develop a rich awareness of twenty first century issues and an understanding of the exogenous and endogenous factors that shape our lives. Whether you aim to be a lawyer, doctor, vet, farmer, architect, journalist or a teacher and have a passion for the planet upon which we live, A level geography, a subject which neatly bridges the gap between art and science, could be the course for you..

Graphic Communication

AQA Art & Design 7241/7246

Graphic Communication at A Level is an opportunity for students to explore the exciting and ever-evolving world of digital communication. During the course students learn the fundamentals of graphic design including layout and type, in addition to learning about target audiences, corporate identities, branding, advertising and how to communicate a message as effectively as possible. Students become well versed in using digital software, including Adobe Photoshop, to produce their work; however, they also have the opportunity to experiment with physical outcomes, using their design skills to produce unique packaging, signage, t-shirts and other products.

Graphic Communication is often chosen alongside IT; however, it also complements art, maths and economics and offers a solid pathway to pursue graphic design courses at university.

History

OCR History A, H105/H505

A Level History is a fascinating, research-driven course, which ignites students' passions and interests and immerses them in some of history's most engrossing topics. From Anglo-Saxon England and the Norman Conquest, to Democracy and Dictatorship in Germany, Rebellion and Disorder in Tudor England and many more, students develop the ability to ask relevant and significant questions about the past and to research them effectively.

The course teaches students to organise and communicate their historical knowledge and understanding in different ways, to argue a case and reach substantiated judgements. Aside from pursuing the subject at degree level, A Level History is a common precursor to studying law, politics and journalism at university. In fact, it is a valuable qualification for any literacy based or social science course at higher education level and demonstrates independent learning, critical thinking and decision-making skills.

Information Technology

CIE 9626

The effective use of IT is a core business skill and this course will provide an excellent foundation for both the world of work and the many IT-based courses available at university in areas such as communications, data analysis and systems development.

Students will develop advanced modelling and database capabilities alongside graphics, sound recording and use of digital image and video. Also covered is the structure and use of IT systems within an extensive cross-section of organisations, including the use of a variety of computer networks, and students gain an understanding of IT system life cycles and how these affect the workplace. Although not specifically taught within the course, IT can also work particularly well for students interested in graphic design and game design applications. As clearly related to real-life business situations as possible, the course contains a considerable amount of anecdotal material complemented by a programme of external visitors and informative trips to Jaguar Land Rover and Bletchley Park.

Mathematics

Edexcel 9MA0

Students who have enjoyed GCSE mathematics, as well as those interested in economics, engineering and science, will find this course both interesting and highly useful. The course builds on GCSE knowledge and skills and introduces new ideas, such as calculus. The majority of the course involves using algebra and covers topics such as trigonometry, co-ordinate geometry, differentiation and integration (calculus), algebraic techniques and functions. Students also study statistics and mechanics. Statistics develops the skills required to interpret real data presented in summary or graphical form and helps us to draw conclusions, whilst mechanics teaches students to describe and make predictions about how physical objects move and interact with each other. It involves ideas such as velocity, acceleration, force, and mass, which are central to understanding how the world works.

Maths is valuable in many walks of life and career pathways can include banking and finance, industry and management and many other diverse fields, from climate change science to computer game design.

“I chose Maths because it’s a solid A Level and if I decide to change my mind about studying medicine, many other subjects are still viable.”

- Elsie Year 12

Modern Foreign Languages

Edexcel Spanish 9SP0, French 9FR0

There are many exciting career opportunities for those with knowledge of a foreign language and it can significantly enhance prospects for those interested in law, business, journalism and the civil service amongst others. These courses allow students to develop their language skills through the study of social issues and trends in the society of their chosen language. They also provide the opportunity to investigate the country’s recent history and explore aspects of the political and artistic culture of their chosen country of study. In addition, students will be required to examine literary texts and film. The prescribed text lists include a range of classic and contemporary novels, short stories, plays and films.

Learning a language to an advanced level encourages students to develop their own opinions and ideas and to develop the communication and independent learning skills which are so highly valued by universities and employers.

Music

Eduqas A Level Music

Whether you are a talented instrumentalist, composer or performer, A Level Music will challenge and inspire you. Learners develop skills in the three distinct but related disciplines of performing, composing and appraising and have the flexibility to specialise in either performing or composing as the course develops. Instrumental lessons are taught in both small group and one-on-one classes and students have regular opportunities to perform in an array of ensembles, bands and chamber choirs.

All students learn about the development of the symphony in addition to selecting one area of study from Pop and Rock, Musical Theatre and Jazz in order to explore the musical language and styles from either the early twentieth century or the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries.

Some students choose to continue their interest in the subject at university whilst others pursue a variety of different pathways, but regardless of how they choose to progress, A Level Music combines effectively with a large number of courses.





Physical Education

OCR H155/H555

A Level Physical Education encourages students to immerse themselves in the world of sports and PE. Divided into four components, the course covers physiological factors affecting performance, psychological factors affecting performance, socio-cultural issues in physical activity and sport and performance in physical education. Each component is further sub-divided into topic areas and the detailed content associated with those fields. During the course students develop practical and academic skills including communication using appropriate language, dealing with pressure, split-second decision making and analysing and evaluating performance. The mixture of practical skills and theoretical knowledge also indicates to universities and employers that a student with a qualification in A Level PE is a flexible learner with a broad set of transferable skills. Many students who study the subject progress to studying sports-related courses at university such as sports management and sport science. PE is also useful if considering physiotherapy or a similar course.

Physics

OCR Physics A, H158/H558

Developments in physics have led to exciting new technologies and other valuable advancements and discoveries which have shaped the world in which we live. In A Level Physics, students use mathematics to investigate some of the universe's biggest questions and have great fun delving into the intricacies of how the world around us works. While some of this will be developing familiar territory from GCSE, a large part of the course deals with understanding how waves, light, matter and electricity interact to produce the world we see. These ideas are further developed to improve understanding of everything from the tiniest particles of stars to gravity and cosmology.

Many A Level physicists go on to study the subject at university and of all jobs taken up by physics graduates, almost 50% are in business, finance, IT or engineering; all highly respected and rewarding careers.

Psychology

AQA 7181/7182

A fascinating and effective introduction to psychology which will appeal to a cross-section of students regardless of whether or not they have studied the subject before. Psychology, the study of the human mind and behaviour, is a popular subject which is attractive to students because it develops valuable skills, including critical analysis, independent thinking and research.

In Year 12 the course covers some fascinating topics including social influence, memory, attachment, psychopathology, explaining and treating OCD, Depression and Phobias and research methods. In Year 13 students study biopsychology, issues and debates in psychology, gender, schizophrenia and forensic psychology. The ability to write clearly is essential in order to apply psychological principles and theories to the descriptions of novel scenarios. In addition, students will also be required to participate in classroom discussion as well as to design, undertake and evaluate their own research.

Textile Design

AQA Art and Design 7201-7206, 7241-7246

This course gives students an opportunity to immerse themselves in the creative and highly individual area of textile design. This hands-on, practical course introduces students to textile processes and techniques, both traditional and contemporary, including mono-printing, screen printing, laser printing, tie-dye and batik, fabric construction, stitching, padding, quilting, embroidery and much more. In addition to this, students are required to work in one or more areas of textile design which include fashion design, fashion textiles, costume design, dyed fabric and materials, art textiles and installed textiles.

As the course progresses, students will develop an awareness of the elements of textile design and will produce practical and critical outcomes that demonstrate their understanding of different styles, genres and traditions. A Level Textile Design is a good choice for those hoping to undertake an art foundation course and/or pursue art or fashion pathways at university.

Additional Sixth Form Courses

The British Horse Society Equine Excellence Pathway in Complete Horsemanship

BHSAI

The Excellence Pathway certificates are internationally recognised and showcase students' practical skills and knowledge to future employers. Taught at our on-site Equestrian Centre, students gain a sound understanding of the science and theory behind horse care and sports coaching as well as the opportunity to develop their practical skills in riding, coaching and stable management. They will also undertake stages 1-3, which demonstrate their ability to work in the industry as a coach, inspire others through modern teaching methods and gain a sound knowledge base to support their practice. As a stage 3 coach in Complete Horsemanship, students can join the largest professional equestrian coaching body as a BHS Accredited Professional Coach.

Those wishing to join this course should have prior experience with horses and it is ideal for those who would like to pursue a career in the equestrian industry or who have a real passion for horse riding.

Extended Project (EPQ)

AQA EPQ 7993

The Level Three Extended Project Qualification allows students to study almost any subject they wish. The only qualifications required to take the EPQ are a genuine personal interest and the willingness to work independently to develop the necessary skills and knowledge to complete the project on time. The finished project can take the form of a dissertation, an investigation and report, an artefact or a performance. The content of the project is entirely up to the student and the EPQ is often selected for a variety of reasons. Some use the EPQ to extend knowledge in an A Level subject, others to study a subject not offered at A Level and for some students it is simply an opportunity to demonstrate their passion for a hobby or interest.

Students taking the EPQ will have the guidance of a supervisor and the qualification is highly valued by the most selective universities, including Cambridge and Oxford, as evidence of passion for a subject and the ability to work independently.

Health & Social Care

BTEC

At some point, all of us will need the support of a healthcare or childcare professional. It is rewarding work with considerable scope for many different jobs and specialisms allowing you to play a positive role in the health and happiness of others.

Studying a BTEC in Health and Social Care means combining good practice, skills, theory and behaviours to understand what it means to deliver top quality healthcare and services across a variety of areas. You will experience a challenging and incredibly rewarding career, where you can go home at the end of the day knowing that you have made a real difference to someone's life.

Just a few of the rewarding careers that can be pursued include Registered Nurse or Nurse Practitioner, Physician Assistant, Social Worker, Paramedic, Midwife and Occupational Therapist.



Lucton School continues to welcome students from a huge range of international countries. In recent years these have included...

Russia
Germany
Spain
France
Italy
Dubai UAE
Nigeria

Austria
Cyprus
Hong Kong
China
Tenerife,
(Canary Islands)
South Africa

Saudi Arabia
Switzerland
Portugal
Turkmenistan
Kazakhstan
Sri Lanka
Japan



Recent university destinations for Lucton students have included...



UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM



Imperial College London





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