



SIXTH FORM Prospectus 2024



Welcome from the Principal

Welcome to this introduction to the Sixth Form at Monkton Senior School.

Entering the Sixth Form is an important and exciting stepping stone to university life. The Monkton Sixth Form will offer you greater freedoms and, in doing so, encourage you to develop independent thinking, balance and judgement. In A Level study you will have an opportunity to specialise in areas of particular interest and further your depth of understanding, meaning that we expect hard work in all areas as they are all of your own choosing.

I hope that you will find this booklet helpful in guiding you on the choices that you will make. These are difficult choices and I hope you will also take advantage of the advice available here, speak to your teachers and experience directly through taster sessions what some of these subjects feel like at A Level to make sure that the choices suit you and your ambitions.

As you work out how to prioritise for yourself, you will find that you spend much more time working with your Tutor, monitoring your progress, setting targets, and applying to Higher Education. In addition, the Sixth Form student works even more collaboratively with their teachers, sharing and comparing opinions, engaging in debate and leading the discussion. Some pupils also take the lead at 'Voluntaries', helping younger students with their work in chosen subjects, and sharing both their enthusiasm and their knowledge.

Over a quarter of Monkton's Sixth Form are new to the School, and there is a particular focus on helping these students to make the most of the opportunities which the Sixth Form affords because the time passes quickly. Judging from the number of senior prefects who have joined the School at this stage, our new students find it easy to make an impact.

I would encourage all potential Sixth Formers to give some thought to all they want to achieve - intellectually, athletically, aesthetically - to take advantage of this exciting period of your education; at this stage you decide what you do and you will shape, make or break your own Sixth Form experience! Be ambitious, dare to fail and discover success.

Chris Wheeler
Principal



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Succeed Beyond Monkton

Academic rigour at the heart of a broad Sixth Form experience

Monkton is well known for its diverse co-curriculum, its sector-leading pastoral care and its distinctive Christian ethos. At the heart of this for the Sixth Former at Monkton is a commitment to a rigorous and wide-ranging academic programme which equips our young adults not only with the qualifications needed for a successful transition to life beyond Monkton, but, vitally, the skills needed to succeed well beyond that.

So we celebrate ambition and achievement alongside an attitude which embraces the lessons which can be learnt from making mistakes. Expecting much from all our Sixth Formers within the context of supportive and specific feedback is, time and again, a major reason for the success and progress of so many of our students.

Our students have averaged 61% A*'s and A's in A Level exams over the last 3 years. Across the board our students demonstrate the sort of qualities that universities are looking for: a very large proportion were accepted to their first choice university following the publication of A Level results last summer.

“We celebrate ambition and achievement alongside an attitude which embraces the lessons which can be learnt from making mistakes.”

Support networks

Developing independence, resourcefulness and resilience to enable our pupils to thrive in the real world.

We don't want our Sixth Formers to leave Monkton like cheese plants. In their natural habit, these plants look healthy and vigorous, but they are climbers whose trunk has no inherent strength. Take away the supporting tree that they grow up, and they fall flat on their faces.

All too often Sixth Formers look like they are confident and flourishing at school, but the support structures at schools hide a worrying truth - that they have very little strength in their own 'trunk'.

We want to balance the support we give with a developing independent resourcefulness in our students. Rather than avoid failure at all costs, we seek to help them to learn from their mistakes within the context of a supportive environment, and so help them develop their own resilience.

Their Tutor, with whom they will meet regularly one to one, will ask more questions than they will offer answers. The amount of freedom each student has around their study periods will be carefully expanded as they progress through the Sixth Form. Subject drop-in sessions encourage an attitude of seeking help rather than passively waiting for help to arrive.

In addition, we run a comprehensive Year 12 Induction Programme which covers all the aspects of what will make their Sixth Form years successful at Monkton. When they start to think about life after Monkton, we offer advice and support about the options available, including sessions on CV writing and interview technique.

The care we take of our students is well known, and it always features strongly in the feedback we receive from our leavers. But what sets Monkton Sixth Formers apart at university and beyond is their resourcefulness and deep understanding of interdependence rather than just independence.

“The care we take of our students is well known, and it always features strongly in the feedback we receive from our leavers.”



Meet some former Monkton Sixth Formers



Hannah

Class of 2021

“ I arrived at Monkton in 2019 at the beginning of sixth form and was instantly blown away by how different the school is to any other I have been to and how ultimately unique it is as both a school and a community. From the great teaching to the amazing sporting opportunities, to the incredible pastoral care, to phenomenal co-curricular activities, from day one at Monkton I knew this was where I wanted to be. As a new boarder I was initially quite nervous about my transition into boarding life, however the family-like atmosphere of my house and my incredible houseparents meant that I felt at home almost instantly, making friends which I am sure I will carry with me long after I leave.

Throughout my time at Monkton, I was continually amazed at the investment that staff make in every student, not just academically but also pastorally, showing genuine care and concern for all members of the Monkton community. Although the content and style of the courses at A level are undoubtedly a step-up from GCSEs, the support of my teachers and the more focused and tailored teaching that I received, due to the smaller class sizes, enabled me to really push myself this year and find a new enjoyment of my chosen subjects. Alongside the academic aspect of Sixth Form, there is also access to a huge variety of co-curricular activities, from choirs and academic debates, to House Sport competitions and the Senior Production, which allow all students to develop new skills. During my time in the sixth form, I especially loved getting involved in sport, and through the excellent coaching I received, progressed up three teams in Netball (a sport which I previously had little experience of), exceeding any expectations I originally had of my sporting ability.

The supportive and accepting community of Monkton enables students to push boundaries and explore new skills through teaching that failure is a normal part of learning. I personally found this approach exceptionally freeing. As a result I tried activities, such as singing, which previously I had not had the confidence to do. Monkton is far more than just a school. Coming here was truly one of the best decisions that I have ever made.



Fadi

Class of 2016

“ My time at Monkton was one that I will cherish for the rest of my life, especially the two Sixth Form years. I arrived at Monkton from Egypt as a 14 year old who, unsurprisingly, was overwhelmed and frankly scared by the idea of being in a boarding school away from home. However, the amount of support and care I was shown at Monkton from my teachers and houseparents squashed those feelings almost instantly. I had always been interested in science and the body so choosing my subjects (which were Chemistry, Biology, Maths and Arabic) was fairly straightforward with the aid of my incredibly helpful teachers and their advice. Two years on, I'm using every single one of those subjects as I am studying Pharmacy at Monash University in Australia and doing translation work on the side for newly arriving refugees from the middle east.

In my opinion, Sixth Form encompasses so much more than just the academic side (although that is very important): for me it was a time to grow and mature as a musician, sportsman, actor and a Christian. I was able to participate in many extra-curricular activities such as singing in the chapel choir, playing rugby, developing my musical abilities, holding a position of leadership in the school and much more. This has definitely shaped my personality and contributed to who I am today. I would strongly encourage students who are going into the sixth form to explore what Monkton has to offer and to be part of it.

I am still pursuing my dream of becoming a doctor and studying medicine is my plan after pharmacy, and I hope to serve God even more through that. Finally, I consider myself very lucky to have attended a school such as Monkton and my Sixth Form years were definitely the highlight of my time there.



Manuela

Class of 2022

“ I attended Monkton since year 6 and felt nothing but support from every member of staff that I came across in the past 8 years.

As a military child, one thing I have to adjust to very often is change and the school has made this easy for me, especially when we had a big move to Canada during the pandemic. I felt like I was still on top of my work and the teachers understood how difficult work felt at times, taking time to talk me through certain topics and making sure I had the resources I needed. Things like voluntaries, where you can get help from teachers on any subject after school, were really beneficial especially as the difficulty of the level of work steps up at A Level. Having these one-on-ones with teachers can help you understand topics a lot better if you find classroom settings difficult.

My boarding experience was my favourite part of every year. My houseparents helped me through many homesick days and continued to encourage me during the most tiring parts of the year. As a boarder, the time we get after school is where you can wind down the most and connect with the friends you don't see as often during the school day. It's also the time where you have more freedom to catch up with your parents, or be part of any after school activities.

Even though Year 12 was a tough year at times through Covid, one thing I enjoyed was having the opportunity to do CCF with the Year 10s. I looked forward to those afternoons where I could just focus on improving my leadership skills and teaching them new skills in a non-academic setting. Another thing I particularly appreciated was the sport. I found that the sports department has shown how much they are committed to making sure each child can improve their physical health. Even when you're not in the top teams, you do feel like you're working towards your own goals and having fun with your friends while you do.

A particularly special attribute of the school is the sense of community. Even though Monkton may be small in the number of students, it is probably one of the best things about the school. You get to know everyone in your year group and more than half the school during many of the events that run throughout the year. House Music, the biggest event of the year, is a whole school favourite. This is because the first 3 weeks always set the tone of any new school year, and in this time you get the opportunity to bond with everyone in your house. Integrating between year groups is so important and also forming trusting relationships with the people you might live with that can last for a lifetime.



Jonjo

Class of 2021

“ Upon finishing Year 13, it had been 16 year since I had first arrived at school. The year flew by, and I can honestly say that I enjoyed every moment. My experiences at international school, which I attended for two years whilst my parents were working abroad, clearly underlined exactly why Monkton is such a special place for me. This school is a community of people rooted in its surroundings that is underpinned by a staff that show dedication in their work, and that has a clear impact on our experience as pupils.

In Lower Sixth, I particularly enjoyed taking on positions of responsibility around the school. I taught drill to Year 10 cadets, oversaw charity fundraising efforts in my house and supervised the junior years during prep. Those experiences have given me a better understanding of the challenges that come with leadership, not to mention a whole new level of respect for teachers. The Lower Sixth's role within the houses, aiding the Year 13s in running house events and looking out for the lower years, is particularly key in preparing us for the challenge of taking on leadership roles ourselves. The house system at Monkton brings opportunities for Sixth Formers to exercise leadership skills thanks to the presence of all year groups in each house. Year 12s and 13s are responsible for setting a positive and welcoming tone that is reflected across the school.

For me the joy of Sixth Form has been the depth and focus of study in each of my subjects. The department buildings allow Sixth Formers in particular the space and facilities to delve further into their chosen subjects I was surprised going into Sixth Form by how much time I had to pursue independent study: having to manage more of my time was a new challenge but it left me feeling much more confident in my ability to motivate myself to work efficiently. Being able to direct more of my own learning not only furthered my understanding of the course material, but also gave me a much better idea of what I wanted to study at university.

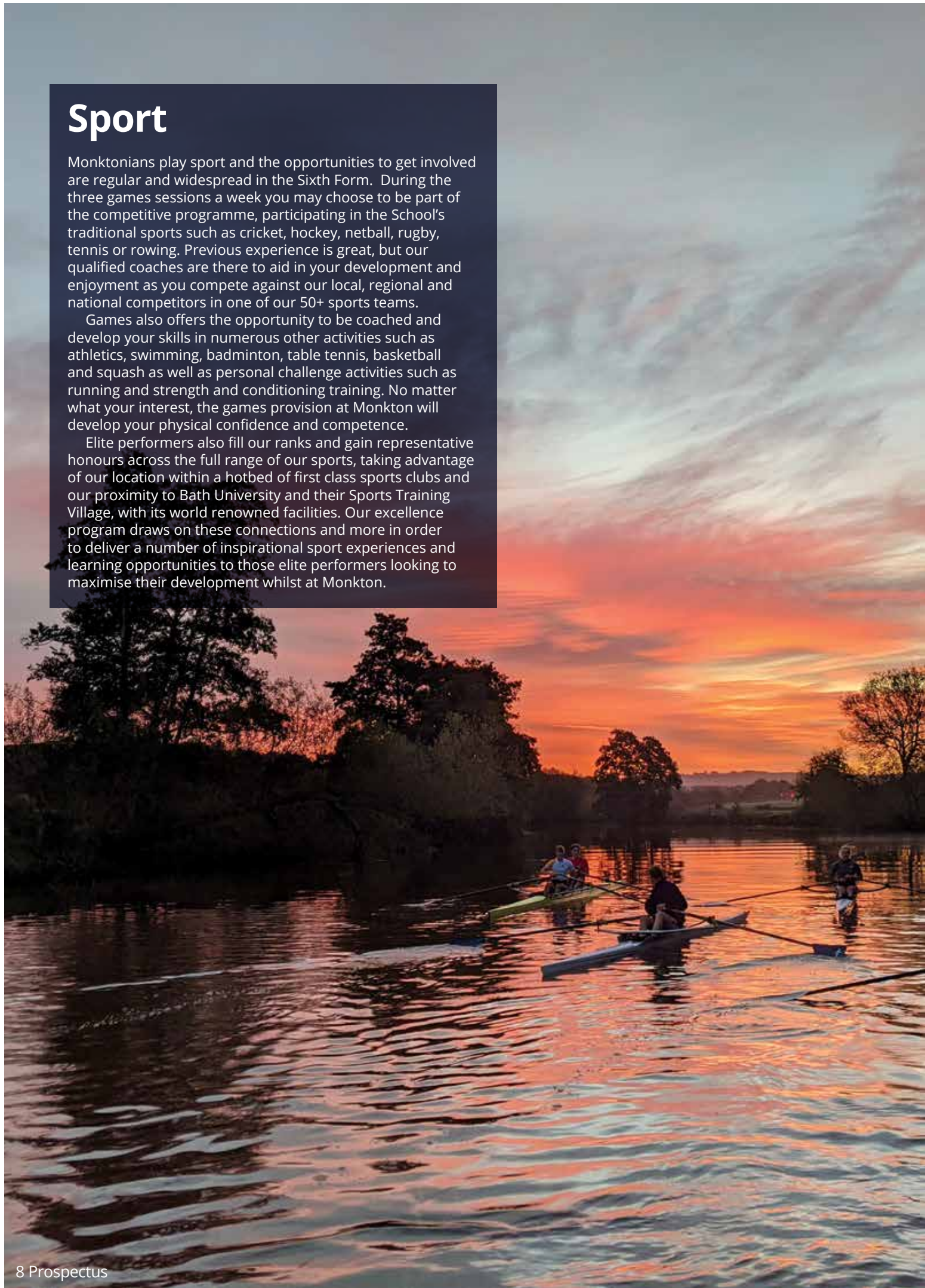
Outside of lessons the co-curricular activities kept me very busy. Music is something of a passion for me and the choirs, bands, groups and orchestra give us the opportunity to pursue music in all of its forms. The emphasis is very much on achieving the goals of the individual, whether that's taking a performance diploma, or singing in a choir for the very first time. I particularly enjoyed making 'music@monkton' because of that supportive and constructive atmosphere which welcomes all, regardless of ability. I think that that is reflective of the atmosphere of the school and its ethos as a whole.

Sport

Monktonians play sport and the opportunities to get involved are regular and widespread in the Sixth Form. During the three games sessions a week you may choose to be part of the competitive programme, participating in the School's traditional sports such as cricket, hockey, netball, rugby, tennis or rowing. Previous experience is great, but our qualified coaches are there to aid in your development and enjoyment as you compete against our local, regional and national competitors in one of our 50+ sports teams.

Games also offers the opportunity to be coached and develop your skills in numerous other activities such as athletics, swimming, badminton, table tennis, basketball and squash as well as personal challenge activities such as running and strength and conditioning training. No matter what your interest, the games provision at Monkton will develop your physical confidence and competence.

Elite performers also fill our ranks and gain representative honours across the full range of our sports, taking advantage of our location within a hotbed of first class sports clubs and our proximity to Bath University and their Sports Training Village, with its world renowned facilities. Our excellence program draws on these connections and more in order to deliver a number of inspirational sport experiences and learning opportunities to those elite performers looking to maximise their development whilst at Monkton.





Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award

Monkton Sixth Form students can choose to participate in the Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award. This involves developing a personal programme of challenging and rewarding activities, providing unique opportunities to celebrate achievements and develop key life skills and attitudes. The personal attributes developed through the Gold Award are extremely well recognised by employers and universities and provide a point of interest for UCAS applications, CVs and personal statements. The expeditions are a real highlight of the Gold Award, with teamwork, navigation, campcraft and decision making being put to the test in Dartmoor and Snowdonia each year. All Gold participants will receive expert training in expedition skills, so they are ready to complete an independent journey through the mountains of Snowdonia at the end of Year 12.

The Gold Award is a demanding and challenging undertaking, but it is achievable by all who are prepared to stretch themselves in a variety of ways. You might get blisters, you might get lost, your tent poles might break, you might even get emotional when you complete your final volunteering session or when you read one of your assessor reports, but you will certainly discover huge amounts of reward, satisfaction and self-belief. Ultimately, it is designed to celebrate your achievements, of which you will have many, as a Sixth Former at Monkton.





Expressive Arts

The Expressive Arts encompass Dance, Drama, Media and Music. There's a place for anyone and everyone at Monkton to experience the opportunities that help develop the life skills provided by the Arts. The Faculty runs a broad range of plays and musical theatre productions, from smaller-cast 'serious' works such as Teale's 'Brontë' through outdoor Shakespeare to the recent 50-strong musical extravaganza, 'School of Rock'. Beyond the acting opportunities in a production, you could help compose the music or sound design, perhaps perform in the band, get involved with stage crew, assist with hair and make-up, or help run sound or lights. All are welcome to become part of our Drama department in whatever capacity suits you; there are student-led events such as "The Open" in which you could perhaps perform a monologue or even present a self-penned work!

There are growing links with Bath Spa University and their media department, where students are filmed in anything from drama scenes to pop videos. In Music, there are numerous opportunities to get involved. Ensembles include choirs, orchestras, bands and many smaller groups, and there are a host of performance opportunities ranging from the amazing annual Longmead Music Festival on a Glastonbury-style stage, through Studio 1@1 informal lunchtime concerts, to Evensong at Salisbury Cathedral and performances at Disneyland Paris. Both Music and Drama run regular trips to see professional performances - recently to 'Wicked' in the West End and 'Wonderboy' in Bristol. The Faculty's Media opportunities are also growing, offering weekly sessions in our superb studios teaching audio recording for podcasts and multi-camera live streaming.



A wealth of opportunities

On Wednesday afternoons, Year 12 are all involved in our Service and Enrichment Programme. They are able to be part of CCF, or take part in the many Enrichment and Community Service activities which we offer.

Enrichment afternoons are an opportunity for Year 12 to try something new and expand their skills in areas which they haven't before, and also hone the ones they do have. We offer a carousel of activities which rotate throughout the year, offering a wide breadth of options - these can range from sports such as Archery, Fencing and Golf, to creative pursuits such as Ceramics and Jewellery Design. There is also an opportunity to learn skills in a specific area which they are interested in, such as by joining our Monkton Film Team where they will learn a variety of filming and editing skills, or by choosing Outdoor Ed which could allow them to work towards qualifications in sailing or climbing. Each year we listen to the students and endeavour to create a space for them to develop as people and find out what it is that they want to pursue, igniting their spirit of learning, curiosity and adventure.

The CCF at Monkton is one of the largest in the South West, made up of Army, Navy, RAF, Signals and REME sections. Participants in the Sixth Form, with prior experience, form the body of NCOs core to the CCF. These individuals practise leadership skills on a weekly basis, leading sections and delivering activities to the younger cadets. The aim is to develop teamwork and leadership skills within the discipline of a military framework, culminating in a week long summer camp. Cadets in the CCF have participated in the following activities in recent years: skiing, flying, gliding, a voyage on HMS Bulwark, hovercraft trip with the Marines, sailing, powerboating, climbing, kayaking, overnight exercises, a cross-channel sail, "mess" dinner, helicopter flights, exercises on Salisbury Plain, live firing and obstacle courses. Several cadets have also won Sixth

Form Army scholarships whilst at Monkton to help fund themselves through university.

Our Community Service offering includes options to help in local primary schools, care homes or charity shops and we are expanding our provision in this area to become more involved with supporting the members of our own village. A member of Year 12 writes: "Community Service is special because it allows us to actually go out there into our local community and help. Some of us go into Bath to volunteer at charity shops and in the head office of Julian House, others of us talk to elderly residents of a local care home and help organise fun bingo for them, and others lend a hand at the younger end of the age spectrum in local schools. We really enjoy the time we spend in our local community helping out. Recent highlights have included making a Skype call to a lady who we visit every Wednesday on the occasion of her 92nd birthday - she had Skype calls from friends and family from all over the UK and abroad, and said it was her best birthday ever! Moments like this make us proud to be offering ourselves in service to others."

As part of our ever-expanding *wildMonkton* initiative that sees the many benefits of encouraging our students outdoors, most of Year 12 will be involved in our Conservation Group in some form or other. They will undertake practical conservation tasks, most of which take place in the School grounds - both at the senior and the prep school sites. In the past, these have included a 6-week beekeeping course, planting hedges and bulbs, creating our own allotments, drawing up a nature trail for trees and looking after the bee and butterfly garden. Outside School we have worked on the Bath Skyline clearing scrub and maintaining pathways with the National Trust; chopped down birch trees; cleared areas for moths in the Somerset Levels, and mended dry stone walls in the Monkton churchyard.



Fisherman's Rest, Malawi

Every two years Monkton runs a popular and inspiring trip to Fisherman's Rest in Malawi which pupils in Years 11 to 13 can apply for a place on. Fisherman's Rest is an NGO owned and run by the Chichlowski family who have strong connections with Monkton. As well as being a lodge that can be visited for a holiday it is also possible to engage in the projects that Fisherman's Rest operate in conjunction with their local community. Projects include borehole repair, reforestation of community woodlands, teaching in primary schools, Project BRAVE (which aims to give adolescent girls support within their education and also makes boys of a similar age aware that women are equally capable as men) as well as supporting prisoners in a local prison. At the end of the trip there

are three days of R and R in a lovely lodge on the shores of Lake Malawi as well as a trip to Majete Game Park to experience African wildlife in true bush wilderness.

Places are set aside for pupils joining the 6th Form so that those interested can apply for a place on the Malawi trip.

The best way to find out more is to visit the Fisherman's Rest website www.fishermansrest.net

The next trip is in October 2024 with the next one after that scheduled for October 2026. The visit to Fisherman's Rest runs over the Michaelmas half-term holiday.



Societies and Lectures

There are a wide variety of societies available for pupils to join and lead in the Sixth Form at Monkton. These include the Marshall Society for budding geographers, Model United Nations for those who love debating, Semmelweis for future medics and the Clark Society for academics. If you have a particular interest and the society doesn't exist then, with the support of a teacher, you can set one up!

The Monkton Lecture Series is devised to enlighten, inspire and challenge the minds of the Sixth Form, and over recent years the School has been blessed by exciting visits from a variety of some truly outstanding speakers. From Simon Weston's (Falkland Hero) moving and powerful talk about the nature of facing hardship, to Ann Widdecombe's

masterful lecture on the nature of perseverance, speakers have talked about a variety of fascinating issues. The School has had visits from various Olympians such as Anna Watkins, Lizzy Yarnold and Sharron Davies, and the brilliant journalist, the late George Alagiah, lectured on the subject of multi-culturalism, while Jonathan Porritt (Founder of the Green Party) gave a very thought-provoking, urgent talk on climate change. Although the talks are open to the entire School, each speaker aims the lecture at this specific age group, and many pupils have described these lectures as being 'genuinely life-changing'. The lectures are a highlight of a Monktonian's Sixth Form experience.



Christianity at Monkton

Monkton has a strong Christian ethos that plays through many areas of school life. The School meets centrally for a short chapel service and 'Thought for the Day' on Mondays and Wednesdays. On Fridays each House has their own 'House Prayers.' The School comes together for a longer chapel service on Saturdays after lessons, and before lunch and afternoon sports begin. Visiting speakers, a range of topics and multimedia are all used.

In addition to this, there are optional Bible Study groups on Monday evenings that are run by various members of staff in their houses which are well

attended. The mid-week focus is the Christian Union that meets on Wednesdays and is attended by 80 or so pupils. The Christian Union is organised and run by a committee made up of Year 13s with the support of the chaplaincy, and a number of Sixth Formers also lead various year group or house prayer groups.

During their time here pupils have the opportunity to engage with the Christian faith, ask questions and see how the Christian framework for life can play out practically and help them prepare for life beyond Monkton.





The Sixth Form Curriculum

The standard curriculum at Sixth Form at Monkton Senior School is three A Levels plus. The 'plus' part of the curriculum can take many forms. For example, students could choose to study an AS subject in one of Classical Civilisations, TPE, Physics, Maths, Biology, Chemistry, Business or Geography. Or they could choose to study a fourth A level, with Further Maths a popular choice for those who enjoy Mathematics. A significant number of our students choose to complete an Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) which is equivalent to half an A level. While our EAL students often choose to study for their IELTS examination. All of these options provide a pathway to wider academic enrichment, beyond the three A levels favoured by universities. Almost all A Levels are fully linear – that is, all the exam-based assessments are done at the end of Year 13. This means that, for these linear subjects, there are no external assessments at the end of Year 12. There will, however, be internal assessments throughout Year 12 including at the end of the year, to check on appropriate progress and give feedback.

Through our weekly 'Personal Development' course that every Year 12 and 13 follows, students cover effective study habits, 'after Monkton' advice (university and careers), soft skills development, interview techniques, building constructive relationships, sexual health, time management, coping with workload and stress, healthy eating and exercise, current affairs, gambling addiction, alcohol and drug awareness. Its aim is to complement the subject-based curriculum by helping students set their expertise in subject disciplines within the wider context of important interdisciplinary skills.

In the Sixth Form we want to make the best use of technology to enhance learning wherever possible. As such all students are required to bring a laptop to every lesson the specification of which will depend on the subjects they are following. At Monkton we are keen to develop a balanced view of technology and so look to

continue to discuss with students about how to use all our digital resources appropriately.

In order to progress to Year 13, satisfactory progress must be made in each of the three subjects. In practice, this means that, over the course of the year's assessments, a student will be performing at D grade or better.

For current Monkton pupils, your GCSE results may restrict the range of subject choices available to you. Some subjects require at least a specific GCSE grade in that subject (see the information that follows) but all A level subjects require 6s or 7s in related GCSE subjects in order to demonstrate a minimum level of competence and experience. Where too few GCSE results reflect this, it may be possible to agree a reduced programme. Clearly those results will only be available after your GCSEs, and so you will have discussions with your tutor and other members of the Academic team throughout Year 11 to help you explore A level subjects which play to your strengths.

For those applying to join Monkton for the Sixth Form we use a similar baseline and base our decisions on a reference from the current school, school reports, CAT4 assessments and GCSE (or equivalent) mock results. Applicants may be asked to sit a subject-specific paper as part of the application.

For those who have a particular interest which they wish to develop to a high level, we run Excellence Programmes which can be joined by competitive application. These cover academic, sport, expressive arts (Music, Drama and Production Arts), art and design, and leadership. Applications are made to join these in Year 12 so no assessment takes place in Year 11. External candidates who wish to know more should consult the website and are encouraged to express an interest as part of their application.

The subjects offered and the details of each subject are correct when going to press, but may change without notice for a variety of reasons, including the amount of interest in a particular subject; where numbers fall below 3 students, we would not be able to guarantee to run that subject. **Please ensure you check with your tutor or the Admissions Office before assuming a combination of subjects is possible.**

Art

"If I could say it in words there would be no reason to paint." Edward Hopper

The art department is a lively, popular and creative hub within Monkton. The study of art is a journey of exploration and our aim is to undertake projects that stretch the appreciation and understanding of the aesthetic, technical and conceptual aspects of art. Students undertake a program that covers many diagnostic processes as they write and develop their own projects and interests in the subject. The department is based around a studio system rather than classrooms, where each student can use any area of the building to suit their needs.

Our recently extended and refurbished faculty is a spacious, purpose-built art facility which includes gallery space, textiles, 3D room, photography dark room, IT facilities for digital photography with the full Adobe Creative Suite, animation, a printmaking workshop, library and dedicated studios for Junior, GCSE and Sixth Form teaching. In the Sixth Form each student gets their own space in which to work, adding to a sense of ownership and helping their work develop in exciting ways.



Exam Board: AQA - 7242

What do I need before starting this course?

Art is offered to candidates who demonstrate ability and interest in the subject, a grade 5 or above at GCSE, or a competent portfolio of work.

What will I learn?

Students all work on individual projects, 'creating visual meaning through Art by an expressive response to a personal context or social issue'. They will explore techniques as diverse as drawing, painting, printmaking, textiles, sculpture, and mixed media and photography. Sketchbooks form an integral part of the development of the work and life-drawing classes are also part of the course.

How is the course assessed?

Work is assessed internally throughout the year, with weekly or twice weekly assignments. Final work is marked internally, then moderated by an external examiner in June of Year 13. There will be a termly charge for extra materials with this course.

What degree courses and careers will this course be useful for?

Students go on to the top courses in the country – Central St Martins, Kingston, Goldsmiths, CCW, AA, LCF, Falmouth, Bournemouth and Plymouth. Local art colleges are also well attended. Most students will attend Foundation courses, although some prefer to apply straight to degree level, in fine art, graphics, interior design and fashion.

Biology

Students who study Biology A Level often choose a biologically related degree course, including the medical sciences or areas such as genetics, zoology, botany and ecology. Others go on to careers in law, computing or teaching. Whatever your aspirations, you will find Biology a very stimulating and challenging subject which will develop many of the skills necessary for your future.



Exam Board: AQA

What do I need before starting this course?

The minimum entry requirements are a 7 grade (or high 6) in Biology GCSE or grades 7-7 in Dual Award Science. It's important that you are confident in Chemistry and Maths; 6 grades in both these subjects at GCSE are required.

What will I learn?

Biology has four core themes that are all interlinked: How Structure relates to Function, Evolution, Cell Theory and How Organisms obtain Energy. As a subject you will, therefore, study it from molecular level and how cells function, right up to the level of the Biosphere (the zone on earth where life can exist). You'll be challenged intellectually and learn about the internal regulation of the human body, the importance of photosynthesis to all life and how our species is manipulating the rest of Life on Earth both beneficially and detrimentally.

How is the course assessed?

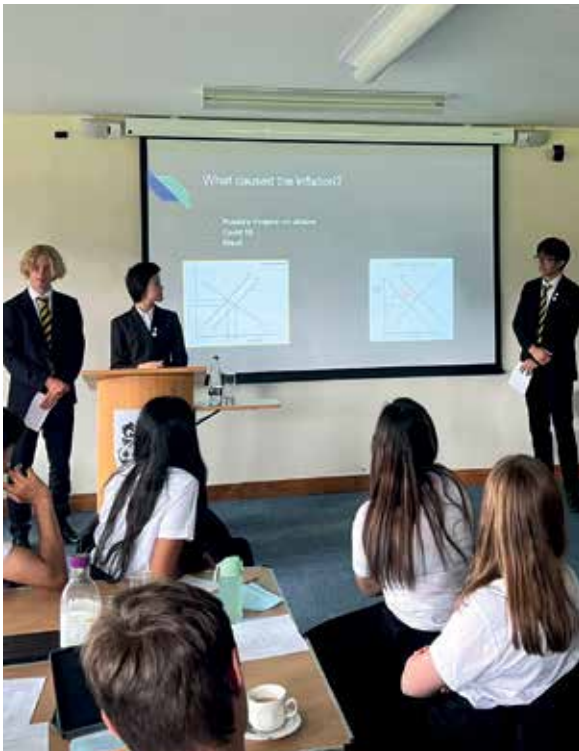
Practical competency is assessed through the whole course and there are three two hour exam papers at the end of Year 13. In Year 13 you will undertake a Field Trip to Pembrokeshire over the first weekend of the Michaelmas Term half term. While this is not absolutely compulsory, it is strongly recommended students attend. They gain a flavour of university style education and cover most of the ecosystems and statistics as outlined on the syllabus. There is a cost to this trip. We also take our Sixth Form Biologists to Studland Nature Reserve in Dorset, The Edward Jenner Museum in Gloucestershire, and to 'We The Curious' in Bristol so they can analyse (in part!) their own genome.

What degree courses and careers will this course be useful for?

Courses that usually require A Level Biology include Agriculture, Biochemistry, Dentistry, Life Sciences, Medicine, Physiotherapy, Veterinary Science, and those which strongly recommend A Level Biology (or at least 2 Sciences) include Environmental Science, Geology, Pharmacology and Physiology.

Business

Business looks at what companies are and what they do. It focuses on the core functions of Marketing, Human Resources, Operations Management and Finance but also broadens out to other factors affecting their success or failure. It looks at 'tools' to assist with strategic decision making and it analyses how firms can be best managed to meet these goals.



Exam Board: Edexcel

What do I need before starting this course?

No prior knowledge is required but you will need a minimum of Grade 5 in GCSE Mathematics and GCSE English Language as well the ability to perform well in essay-based subjects. GCSE Business is not essential but you will be expected to display an interest in current affairs and the world around you.

What will I learn?

You will develop an understanding of how businesses function alongside improving your numerical, communication, problem solving, and analytical skills. You will learn to deploy these skills in considering the challenges and opportunities businesses face, particularly around the functions of marketing, finance, operations and human resources. This is an applied course with many case studies of real world companies, some of which we will hope to visit.

How is the course assessed?

You will sit three two-hour examinations at the end of the course. These will include calculation questions, shorter answer questions and extended essay questions.

Paper 1 will assess marketing, people, and global business. Questions will be drawn from Themes 1 and 4, and from local, national, and global contexts. Paper 1 is worth 35% of the total qualification.

Paper 2 will assess business finance, operations, business decisions and strategy. Questions will be drawn from Themes 2 and 3, and from local, national, and global contexts. Paper 2 is worth 35% of the total qualification.

Paper 3 will assess content across all four themes. For Paper 3 only, there will be a pre-released context document and will focus on a broad context, such as an industry or market in which businesses operate. Paper 3 is worth 30% of the total qualification.

What degree courses and careers will this course be useful for?

This course will introduce you to the dynamic world of business. You will closely study the four functional areas of business: Marketing, Human Resources, Operations and Finance. There is a significant emphasis on problem solving and decision making using contemporary business tools and models.

Business is an excellent foundation for a wide range of careers and for any university degree, not just courses weighted with Business content. That said, some careers particularly value this A Level, many of which promise high earning potential. Whichever route you take, your studies will give you a solid understanding of business terminology and practices that will service you well, both as an employee and as an entrepreneur.

Chemistry

Chemistry touches almost every aspect of human life, from such basics as food, fuel and clothing, through building materials, metallurgy and colour, to medicines, forensic science and the sequencing of the human genome. In the broadest sense it is the study of the composition of substances and the changes that they undergo, and is rooted in our inquisitiveness about the environment in which we live.



Exam Board: OCR Chemistry A

What do I need before starting this course?

It is expected that you will have achieved a minimum of grade 7 in GCSE/IGCSE Chemistry or grades 7-7 in Dual Award Science. It is important that you are confident in Mathematics; a grade 7 is recommended in this subject.

What will I learn?

The qualification integrates theory and relevant practical work, which are developed at different levels throughout the course. In Physical Chemistry you will study Equilibria, Kinetics and Energetics of chemical reactions with a more quantitative approach in the second year. Inorganic chemistry focuses on the properties and reactions of Group 2, and Group 7 elements. Theory and understanding of Atomic Structure and Bonding is used to explain the trends of these properties; transition metal chemistry is encountered in the second year. Organic chemistry focuses on key functional groups and their reactions. In the second year these are linked together to study synthetic chemistry. In the first year we attend a synthesis and analysis workshop at Bath University and lectures hosted by the RSC. Both activities are free. During the second year we will attend a workshop and lecture at Bristol University. The cost of this visit is approximately £40.

How is the course assessed?

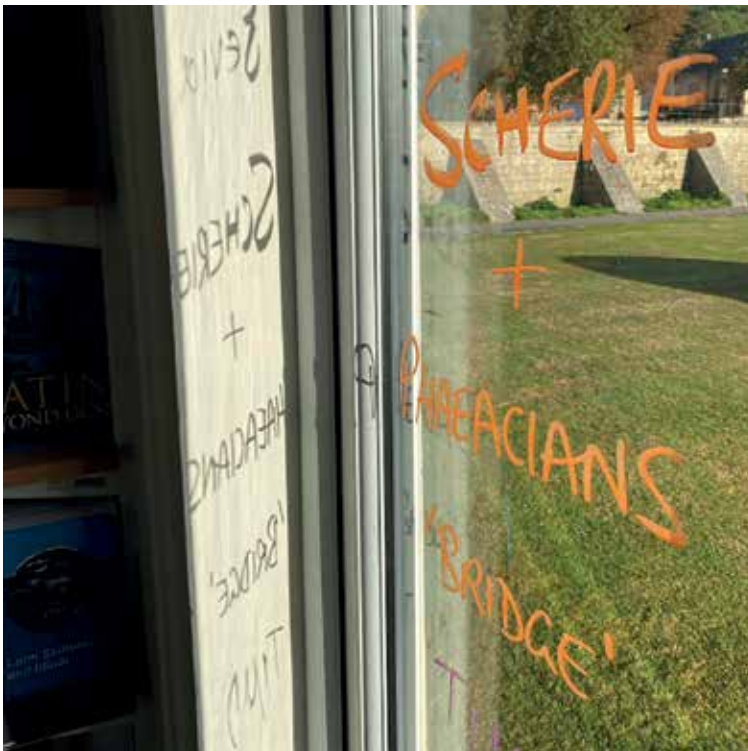
The A Level is assessed at the end of the second year on the whole course with two papers of 135 minutes and one paper of 90 minutes. Practical competency is demonstrated throughout the course.

What degree courses and careers will this course be useful for?

Whether sights are set on degree level study in Chemistry, a career in Medicine, or entry to one of many other courses, for example Biological Sciences, which require or prefer A Level Chemistry, the qualification is widely appreciated by university admissions tutors and employers alike.

Classical Civilisation

Classical Civilisation focuses on the civilisations of Greece and Rome, and provides students with a broad and rewarding study of the classical world. Students have the opportunity to study elements of the literature, visual/material culture and thoughts of the classical world while acquiring an understanding of their social historical and cultural contexts. You don't have to know any languages - the texts are in translation - all you need is an interest in the ancient world and its cultures. Classical Civilisation involves interesting discussions that are directly relevant to today's world.



Exam Board: OCR

How long is the course?

This is an AS course completed in Year 12.

What do I need before starting this course?

There are no qualifications required, merely an interest in the Classical world.

How is the course structured and what will I learn?

The course will be split into two topics that are studied sequentially:

- 1) 'The World of the Hero', which consists of an in-depth study of Homer's *Odyssey*, and;
- 2) 'The Imperial Image', which consists of an examination of the ways in which Augustus conveyed his personal brand to all social classes of Rome. Regarding the latter, the idea of a Roman politician successfully 'spinning' a propaganda campaign is highly relevant to our society today.

What degree courses and careers will this course be useful for?

If you are looking to apply to university, Classical Civilisation can be extremely useful. You not only acquire specific Classical knowledge, but also important transferable skills such as analysing sources and developing independent, critical and evaluative approaches. You learn to formulate and support an argument and develop a valuable understanding of cultures very different to your own. Information from UCAS shows that students who studied Classical Civilisation went on to study in such diverse disciplines as Medicine, Veterinary Science and Chemistry, as well as a range of Arts subjects.

Computer Science

Computer Science allows you to combine creativity with practical skills and technical knowledge. Students are introduced to networking, cyber security, hardware and software models. In addition, Year 13 students undertake a programming project to stretch their coding skills and practical problem solving. Students are also given opportunities to consider associated ethics and laws around today's technology and the power to define the future of computing in tomorrow's world.



Exam Board: OCR H446

What do I need before starting this course?

This qualification builds on the knowledge, understanding and programming skills inherent in GCSE. It is expected but not essential that you will have studied Computer Science at GCSE.

What will I learn?

You will learn about hardware, software, programming and complex data structures. Networks and security, along with ethical and legal arguments which relate to IT both in the UK and across the world. Students will develop their mathematical skills, critical thinking and logical problem solving. In the final year, project planning techniques, software engineering and algorithm designs are also developed as they complete their programming project.

How is the course assessed?

The course has two written exams each worth 40%. The programming coursework (NEA) is worth 20% and is completed in Year 13.

What degree courses and careers will this course be useful for?

The experience gained in Computer Science will be useful for most Higher Education courses given the prevalence of computing. However, it is directly relevant to degrees in: Computer Science, Physics, Engineering, Graphic or Game Design. Any of these could lead to careers in Cyber Security, Software Development, Data Analysis, Network Engineering and Aerospace Engineering.

Design - Three Dimensional Design

The department offers students the ability to develop their innovative and creative proficiency through designing and making high quality products in our newly refurbished workshops and creative studio. This course will introduce students to a variety of experiences that explore a range of three-dimensional media, processes and techniques. You will be exposed to both traditional and new media, and encouraged to explore the use of drawing for different purposes, using a variety of methods and media on a variety of scales. Students will use sketchbooks and journals to underpin their work over the two years.



Exam Board: AQA - 7245

What do I need before starting this course?

This qualification builds on the knowledge, understanding and manufacturing skills inherent in GCSE. It is expected but not essential that you will have studied design technology or art at GCSE.

What will I learn?

You will explore relevant images, artefacts and resources relating to a range of design, from the past and from recent times, including European and non-European examples. You will develop your ability to respond to these examples through practical and critical activities that demonstrate their understanding of different styles, genres and traditions. In the workshop you will gain an understanding of working methods, such as model-making, constructing and assembling, alongside an appreciation for the safe use of a variety of appropriate tools and equipment.

How is the course assessed?

Work is assessed internally throughout the year, with weekly or twice weekly assignments. Final work is marked internally, then moderated by an external examiner in June each year. There will be a termly charge for extra materials with this course.

Course costs

Pupils will need to pay for materials purchased specifically for the completion of their major projects.

What degree courses and careers will this course be useful for?

The experience gained in this A Level will be useful for most Higher Education courses, however it is directly relevant to: Architecture, Product Design, Sustainable Design and other creative industries including Jewellery Design, Set Design, Interior Design and Landscape Design.

Drama and Theatre

Plays and performance will take you into other worlds, help you empathise with other lives and inspire you to communicate in other ways. Drama and Theatre Studies is skill and theory based learning, where each element supports and enriches the other.



Exam Board: Eduqas

What do I need before starting this course?

A genuine interest in the subject and a real enthusiasm for, and dedication to, plays, productions and those you will be working with, is essential. We will look for a grade 6 or above in Drama GCSE (or, if you have not taken it, a grade 6 in English GCSE).

What will I learn?

Through the study of texts and the production of plays, you will gain many life skills along with theatre-specific techniques. The course uses and hones many transferable skills which are attractive to university degrees that might look for students with an ability to work in teams, to time manage, be approachable and personable, read and react to an audience, and have the confidence to perform in front of others. We will analyse theory - looking at historical and political contexts - subtext and character - exploring how a person might react in their given circumstances. This will lead us to creative form and design of performance - using our knowledge to reach into the lives of others and experiment with ways to affect our audience. Throughout the course you will experience varying professional theatre companies, analyse their techniques, and use this to influence the work in class. The work covers all facets of a production, both performance and technical, which you will learn to perform and write about it analytically. You will work closely with others, trusting them and knowing they rely on you, but will have the freedom to follow your individual, creative ideas.

How is the course structured?

Exploration of texts and their themes as well as class analysis of professional productions will culminate in written exams. The group productions, both devised and scripted, are assessed as full performances with each individual being marked on a skill (Acting or Technical) alongside research reports and portfolios that justify the theory behind practical decisions. Theatre Practitioners are also studied in depth and the skill of Directing. Students will be charged for theatre trips and one residential trip per year.

What degree courses and careers will this course be useful for?

Many: the life skills that are honed through the course will teach you to work productively and confidently in a variety of situations. employers are looking for applicants who can work with others, understand their "audience", hit a deadline etc. More specifically, it is ideal for all those intending to study Drama or Acting, English, the Arts, Media, Journalism and the Humanities. Musicians may wish to use their expertise through sound design, artists and designers may wish to study costume, lighting or set design.

Economics

Economics is a social science, bridging the gap between arts and sciences by seeking to apply scientific tools and analysis to people and real world events. From the starting point of the fundamental problem of limited resources and infinite wants, you will study theoretical frameworks to help you analyse real world problems. Micro economics considers issues of individual decision making, allocation of resources and the behaviour of individuals, firms and markets, as well as how government may intervene to solve the problems they create. Macroeconomics will consider the wider picture of growth, inflation, unemployment, trade and development.



Exam Board: AQA

What do I need before starting this course?

No prior knowledge is required but you will need a minimum of Grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics as well the ability to perform well in essay based subjects. If you are considering taking the subject beyond A Level, you will almost certainly require A Level Mathematics. You do not need to have taken GCSE Economics or Business but will be expected to have an interest in current affairs and the world around you.

What will I learn?

You gain a theoretical tool kit that allows you to analyse many of the problems in the world around you, from the clearly economic to the political and social. Brexit, the NHS, resource allocation and equality, crime and punishment are all within the purview of the economist. Key skills that you will develop are the ability to both think and write in an analytical and evidenced based way, basic statistical and numerical tools and questioning outlook on life.

How is the course assessed?

You will sit three, two hour written exams at the end of the course. These will include numerical as well as shorter and extended essays.

Paper 1 is a microeconomic paper with a combination of numerical and extended analytical and evaluative essay questions. Paper 2 takes the same format as paper 1 but considers macroeconomic issues.

Paper 3 contains multiple choice questions as well as extended essays and reports based on an unseen case study.

What degree courses and careers will this course be useful for?

Economics related courses include economics, business, management, accounting and finance, actuarial science, politics, law and international relations.

You could go on to a career directly related to economics and the courses above as well as a huge range of options from Civil Service and politics to the City and finance.

English Literature

Monkton Senior School is blessed to have a well provisioned English department, staffed by teachers who are passionate about English Literature. The qualification continues to be hugely popular, and is undertaken by an array of students considering a diverse range of undergraduate degrees and careers.

One of the few 'facilitating' A Level courses, English Literature provides access to almost all undergraduate degrees, and continues to be well regarded by Oxbridge and Russell Group universities. Skills learnt and honed during this course will greatly aid students' EPQ study.

This course is challenging, rewarding and well suited to those who enjoy exploring their imagination. We not only study a number of texts considered the greatest published in the English language, but we also explore the time in which they were written, published and read. The coursework element in Year 13 allows our students to discover their own voice and area of interest, and they will be skilfully equipped to express themselves in original and creative ways through dialogue, argument, prose and poetry.



Exam Board: OCR

What do I need before starting this course?

The requirements for this highly popular course are a minimum of a grade 6 at English Literature and English Language at GCSE...and a love of reading.

What will I learn?

Through the texts you study there will be questions like:

What is literature?

Is there such a thing as good and bad writing?

Why do some writers last whilst others fade?

Where did the novel come from?

Who wrote the first plays?

Does laying out the notes this way make them poetry?

How is the course assessed?

Drama and Poetry pre-1900 (closed text)
External Exam 40%: Section 1: Shakespeare, Section 2: One pre-1900 drama text and one pre-1900 poetry text.

Comparative and contextual study (closed text) External Exam 40%: Section 1: Close reading in chosen topic area, Section 2: Comparative and contextual study from chosen topic area.

Literature post-1900 (non-examined assessment) 20%.

What degree courses and careers will this course be useful for?

The skills that you will refine - oral and written communication, presentation and justification of an argument, critical analysis and synthesis of data - are highly regarded for entry into a wide range of top universities. It is ideal for all those intending to go forward to degrees in English, the Arts, Media, Journalism, Drama, Law, Business, Management and Finance, Medicine and the Human Sciences. English graduates go on to a wide variety of jobs and are highly regarded.

Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)

The Extended Project Qualification provides an excellent opportunity for students to develop the rigorous independent learning skills that are so vital for university and beyond, while at the same time encouraging the intellectual freedom to select and research a topic about which they have an existing or developing passion. It affords the chance to work outside the constraints of subject specifications and to individually plan and execute their work within set timeframes. The course attracts UCAS points and is worth half an A Level.

Exam Board: AQA

What do I need before starting this course?

The main requirement is an interest in a particular topic that you would like to pursue further and the commitment to work on your project regularly and independently. Monktonians have undertaken projects in a plethora of areas including Medical Ethics, Midwifery, Science, Law, Psychology, Geography, Politics, Current Affairs, Forensics, History, Theology, Philosophy, English Literature, Art, Architecture, Interior Design, Music, Sport and many more.

What will I learn?

With the support of your supervisor, you will devise your own topic and title, which can be related to (but not overlapping with) your A Level courses, future aspirations or another area of interest about which you would like to learn more. Through the 'taught skills' programme, you will be provided with the tools to help you approach the project, including creating a detailed plan to manage the different phases of the project process, conducting academic research and presenting research and data in an academic way. Your final project can either be a 5,000 extended report or the creation of an artefact with an accompanying report of at least 1,000 words. You will also create and deliver a presentation in order to explain the project process and showcase your final product to a non-specialist audience. During this course you will be given guidance and practical experience of independent research, selecting and evaluating resources, referencing, planning and monitoring your own progress, academic writing skills, ethical considerations within research and presentation skills. All of these skills are hugely valuable for university, further study and the workplace.

How is this course structured and assessed?

The course is entirely coursework based (there is no exam). It is assessed using four criteria: project management (AO1), effective use and selection of resources (AO2), project development/ realisation (AO3) and conclusions and reflection (AO4). EPQ is timetabled along with other subjects and you will have three lessons per week with your supervisor. During this time, you will receive lessons on the skills needed to complete the project well, as well as one to one meetings with your supervisor in order to help you progress. Whilst part of the project process is devising your own personal deadlines, key deadlines will be set by the school in order to help you to stay on track. The completed project will be submitted in June. Your completed project will consist of your 'Production Log' (a detailed explanation and reflection of each stage of the project process), your final product (extended essay or artefact and accompanying report) and a presentation. Work is internally assessed and moderated by EPQ Supervisors and then externally moderated by the examination board.

What degree courses and careers will this course be useful for?

Universities have been hugely positive about the EPQ course due to the range of academic skills that are developed. Many top institutions (such as the Universities of Bath, Exeter, York and Manchester to name a few) will issue lower offers based on a successful EPQ grade. EPQ grades also carry points which can form part of a points-based university offer. The EPQ provides an excellent opportunity for students to choose a topic that will feed into a potential career or degree course, and this functions as an excellent complement to a UCAS application or CV.

French

Vous n'êtes pas encore arrivés mais vous êtes plus proche qu'hier.

A Modern Foreign Language A Level is recognised as one of the highly regarded facilitating subjects for university applications, regardless of the course you might be interested in. With A Level French, students will engage on all levels with France and francophone countries in the knowledge that the ability to communicate in another language is essential in our globalised world. Our AQA A Level French builds on the foundations of the GCSE syllabus, gaining further skills that are vital for progression beyond school. Students immerse themselves in language acquisition through conversation, debates or translation skills. By advancing to reading and analysing original language texts and film, students gain an adeptness in communicating via crucial verbal and literary skills. A Level French is a gateway to deepening an understanding of France and the diverse francophone cultures which enables students to have breadth and knowledge of its history, its diverse culture and - of course - the language.

We will be taking our French language students to Paris in February 2024 with an annual French trip thereafter.

The Languages Department at Monkton Senior School is fortunate to have native French speakers on the teaching staff who bring to their classrooms a wealth of knowledge that is both academic and cultural. In this authentic and vibrant environment, our department offers a highly rewarding and stimulating A Level.

Exam Board: AQA

What do I need before starting this course?

Before starting the course it is essential that you have at least a grade 6 in French at GCSE. We hope that you will have visited France or French speaking countries,, and have some ideas about the culture.

What will I learn?

In the first year you will study contemporary society, looking at how French speaking society has been shaped socially and culturally. Exploring the influence of the past on present-day French-speaking communities you will study the rich cultural heritage of French-speaking countries, including francophone music and cinema. The study of French texts and film are vital to understanding French culture and every year, along with your teacher and peers, we choose a text and film from the syllabus. In addition, having your own choice for what you would like to discuss in your Independent Research Project, allows you agency and makes the study of the cultural aspect of the syllabus all the more exciting! Grammar is an important part of the course, but we try to make it as pain free as possible. You will learn to express yourselves fluently and accurately in French and, of course, you will be encouraged to speak French at all times in class.

How is the course structured and assessed?

The course is linear and examinations take place at the end of the second year. The lessons are taught by two teachers with classes conducted in the target language, although the more complex structures will generally be explained in English. There are seven lessons per week in Year 12 and eight lessons per week in Year 13. In addition a set time for 1-1 Conversation is timetabled for you and these sessions allow you to practise Speaking skills and also familiarise yourself with the Independent Research Project Assessment, which you will undertake in Year 12 and complete at the end of Year 13. There is a great emphasis on class participation, research and presentations. You are assessed in all four skills of Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking.

What degree courses and careers will this course be useful for?

There are language courses on offer at all universities and we have had pupils go on to study French with other languages as diverse as Thai, Mandarin or Russian whilst other students have taken on degrees in French with Economics, Engineering or Law. Your Year Abroad could take you to French fashion houses or galleries, enabling you to make further stepping stones beyond university. Apart from the study of a language providing you with many practical and transferable skills, research shows us that language graduates are highly sought after by employers.

Geography

Geography explores the complex relationships between physical and human environments and how these change over time.

There has never been a better or more important time to study geography. With growing awareness of the issues of climate change, migration, environmental degradation and social cohesion geography is one of the most relevant course you could study.

"Whatever your passion for the world - fascination with landscapes or concerns about inequality - Geography will provide you with the knowledge and transferable skills that will reward you personally and advance you professionally."

Dr Rita Gardner, former Director of the RGS-IBG.



Exam Board: Cambridge International A Level (9696)

What do I need before starting this course?

Grade 6 or above at GCSE in Geography, English Language and Mathematics as well as fulfilling the requirements for entering Year 12.

What will I learn?

A full study of issues affecting people and their environment including Hydrology, atmosphere and weather, rocks and weathering, population, migration and settlement dynamics. Alongside this, you will have the opportunity to carry out a range of fieldwork activities.

How is this course structured and assessed?

There are 2 exams at AS and 2 exams at A2 each is 90 minutes long. The Course has a modular structure which means that the AS exam results can be carried forward and form 50% of the A2.

What degree courses and careers will this course be useful for?

Geography gives support to a full range of degree subjects including international relations, development studies, oceanography as well as Geography itself. Geography graduates are well placed in the current job market due to the transferable skills they learn through their degree. Geography graduates retain one of the highest employability rates post graduation.

History

History combines the excitement of exploration and discovery, involving the investigation of pivotal periods of change which have shaped the world we find ourselves in today. History is about research and enquiry, forming arguments and reaching balanced judgements based on evidence.

We actively encourage discussion and debate in our lessons as we analyse sources and question historians' interpretations.



Exam Board: Edexcel

What do I need before starting this course?

It is preferable to have at least a grade 6 at History but every year candidates achieve top grades even if they have not followed the GCSE course. By far the most important criteria is an enquiring mind and a strong interest in the periods being studied.

What will I learn?

We study topics from the Medieval and Modern periods of British, European and US history. This allows for a rich and varied study of history at this level, which is different from most topics undertaken at GCSE level and thus gives our historians a broader base of historical understanding. The Crusades unit allows for a fascinating insight into a crucial period of history that still has much relevance today in the Middle East and western world. This is complemented by the unit on the Angevin Empire, which provides much European context, and at the same time it allows the pupils to gain an in-depth understanding of the nature and extent of change in government, society and the church in the period. Our final unit addresses Civil Rights and Race Relations in the USA. This allows for both a breadth and in-depth study of the change in the rights and treatment of black Americans, and resistance to this change, from the abolition of slavery, under the Thirteenth Amendment to the US Constitution, to the inauguration of the first black American president, Barack Obama. This topic continues to have great significance today in the US and wider world, as demonstrated by the events surrounding the death of George Floyd in May 2020 and the Black Lives Matter movement, and as such it forms a key part of the History A Level syllabus.

How is the course structured?

Pupils will study four separate units over two academic years. In Year 12 we study the Crusades 1095-1204, which contains an in depth study of historical interpretations on the Fourth Crusade, and the unit on US Civil Rights and Race Relations 1850-2009. In Year 13, the pupils look at Angevin Empire in the reign of Henry II 1154-1189 and will complete coursework; the latter is made up of in-depth research and an individual essay of 3,000-4,000 words.

What degree courses and careers will this course be useful for?

History is a very popular option at university and is therefore very competitive. Often pupils combine it with other subjects such as International Relations or Politics and follow a joint honours degree. History graduates are recruited into a wide range of occupations in both the public and private sectors.

IELTS Course (English as an additional language)

Year 12 is a pre-IELTS programme that strengthens students' academic and functional English in an integrated skills course that will help them to both prepare for the IELTS exam course in Year 13 and equip them for their A Level and university studies. The IELTS qualification is a British university requirement for students with English as an additional language who don't have GCSE English Language.

Exam Board: IELTS

Students entering the Sixth Form with English as an additional language will have the opportunity to study the Monkton IELTS academic English course in Year 12 alongside their A level choices. This integrated skills course helps students to prepare for the IELTS exam as well as equipping them with essential academic skills and language for their A Level and university studies. The standard course structure consists of five lessons a week and also includes participation in the specialist EAL reading programme. In most cases, students are entered for the IELTS exam at the end of Year 12 at the International House test centre in Bristol.

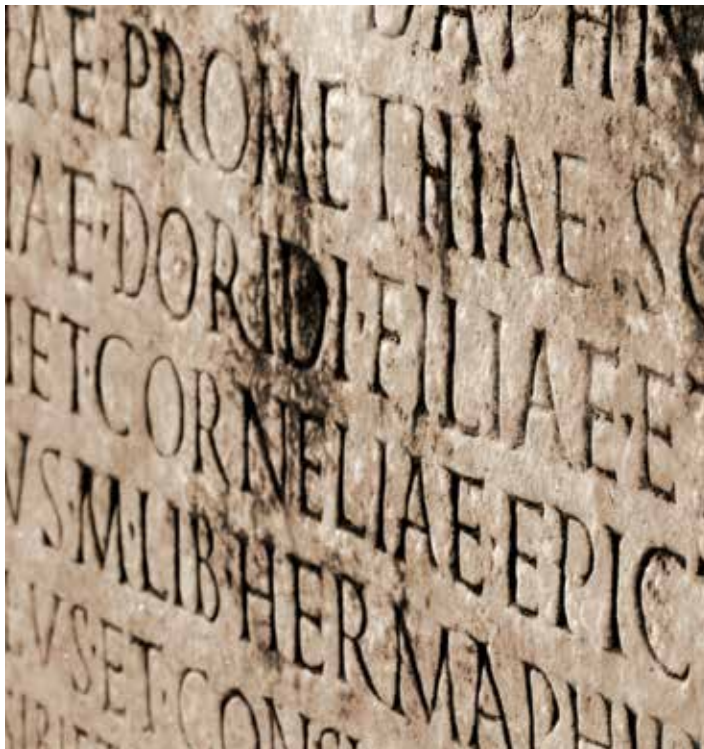
In Year 13, students will either exit the EAL programme following their IELTS exam, receive subject-specific EAL provision to support their A level studies or continue with their IELTS preparation and take the exam in Year 13. Their pathway will be tailored to their specific learning needs and goals. University entry requirements vary according to institution and course but in most cases international students require a minimum composite IELTS score of 6.5 to fulfil the language entry requirements.

EAL at Monkton is a specialist small group provision, tailored to the needs of the students, to enable full and confident curriculum access in English. Where assessed language support needs are identified, EAL is both compulsory and chargeable.



Latin

Although relatively small, the Classics Department is thriving. We aim to encourage a real love of the ancient world, and lessons, usually in smallish groups, are intended to be fun, as well as rigorous. Almost all those who study Latin or Greek achieve top grades at GCSE and A Level.



Exam Board: OCR

What do I need before starting this course?

The course is open to anyone who has gained a grade 7 or 8 at GCSE level.

What will I learn?

This course will continue to develop your understanding of the way the language works, with the level of difficulty being increased from GCSE. At this stage translating English to Latin becomes more difficult, but many pupils find this to be a particularly satisfying part of the course. There is also the chance to read a wide variety of literature, both prose and verse, and you will be expected to carry out advanced literary criticism, using the skills gained from their advanced study of the way the language works. As the course syllabus says: "The aim is to inspire, motivate and challenge by encouraging students to read widely, and gain a deeper understanding of the life and culture of the ancient world. Students are encouraged to make an informed personal response to the material studied, and to analytically approach a wide range of texts."

How is this course assessed?

You will read two different authors, one prose, one verse, in Year 12, and two more in Year 13. You will also spend time learning how the language works. The exams will be at the end of Year 13; there will be passages of Latin for you to translate, and the chance to write Latin translated from English. There will also be exams based on the literature you have read, involving comprehension, translation and essay writing.

What degree courses and careers will this course be useful for?

For a number of university courses Latin is extremely useful. These include Medicine, Philosophy, Religious Studies, English and History. It is still true that Latin is widely recognised by universities as providing particularly good evidence of academic ability. After university there are many jobs for which Latin provides an ideal background – apart from being a Latin teacher! These include, law, banking, library science, diplomatic service, and business. Those who have studied Latin have acquired a wide range of high level transferable skills, including: excellent verbal and written communication; critical and analytical abilities; organisational skills; and creative thinking. The skills you develop (linguistic, analytical, literary, historical, and philosophical) will equip you to work creatively across traditional boundaries and in quite diverse areas.

Mathematics

Do you love solving problems? Do you want to learn how to think analytically, do you enjoy manipulating algebraic expressions and visualising geometrical representations? The A Level Maths course will provide you with the skills needed for thinking logically and solving complex problems. At the same time it will give you the mathematical understanding of the concepts underpinning scientific knowledge and progress.

We use analyse real data to apply statistical models as well as driving cars to explore the mechanics models we look at.



Exam Board: Edexcel

What do I need before starting this course?

A grade 7 at IGCSE or equivalent.

What will I learn?

Primarily the skills to think logically and solve complex problems. However the nuts and bolts of the course includes calculus, trigonometry, geometry, algebra, vectors, statistics and mechanics.

How is this course structured and assessed?

Two thirds of the course is pure, with the remaining third made up of statistics and mechanics. The course is assessed by examinations taken in the summer of Year 13.

What degree courses and careers will this course be useful for?

Pretty much anything - Maths is useful for both those considering both art and science based subjects at university. The statistics side of the course helps with anything from Geography to Psychology. As the most popular and a very well respected A-level, Maths will set you up for life!

Mathematics (Further)

Are you just a more hard core mathematician than the typical A Level student? Does the challenge of studying twice the amount of Maths in Year 12, compared to a single mathematician, engage you? Then the Further Maths course is the one for you. (And, quite frankly, it is a fantastic course – you have chosen wisely.)



Exam Board: Edexcel

What do I need before starting this course?

A grade 8 or 9 at IGCSE or equivalent.

What will I learn?

Lots and lots of Maths. You will complete the entire Single Maths course in one year, followed by an additional A Level in Further Maths taken in Year 13. Topics will include Complex numbers, Matrices, Hyperbolic functions and Power series, as well as Statistics, Discrete maths and Mechanics.

How is the course structured?

In Year 12 the split will be the same as that experienced by the single mathematicians - ie two thirds pure with the remaining one third of the course made up of statistics and mechanics topics. In Year 13 the course is delves into more complex mathematics such as matrices and imaginary numbers, whilst still maintaining a similar balance of pure, statistics and mechanics.

What degree courses and careers will this course be useful for?

Further Mathematics is required by most top universities as a prerequisite to studying Mathematics. In addition it is loved by universities running engineering, economics or science based subjects, or can simply be used as a calling card for elite mathematicians.

Media Studies

Media Studies offers a unique blend between the academic and creative. It is a popular qualification at A Level and is offered as an undergraduate degree by 16 Russell Group Universities.

The A Level is chosen by students wishing to develop their analytical skills while also honing their creative talents.

Its unique course structure enables students to improve their written analysis through study of a rich and rigorous theoretical framework, and then to demonstrate their learning through hands-on, practical creative productions. This dual emphasis on theory and practice prepares students for a higher education in a broad range of disciplines.



Exam Board: AQA

What do I need before starting this course?

The A Level does not require any previous study of Media Studies, but a minimum of a grade 5 in English Language at GCSE is necessary.

What will I learn?

Through studying Media Studies you will view, evaluate and analyse a variety of media products, and develop practical skills spanning a range of media forms, developing research and problem-solving skills as well as their creativity. Underpinning your theoretical study will be a focus on the ideas and concepts of key media theorists, including Judith Butler, Jean Baudrillard and Roland Barthes. You'll also refine your debating skills through the discussion of contemporary issues from a range of perspectives, thereby gaining a deeper appreciation and understanding of the role media plays in day-to-day life. The four main areas of in-depth study are: Media Language, Media Representation, Media Industries and Media Audiences. You will study media products from all of the following media forms: television, film radio, newspapers, magazines, advertising and marketing, online, social and participatory media, video games and music video.

How is the course assessed?

Assessment consists of two, 2 hour examinations (Media One and Media Two), each worth 35% of the A Level, as well as non-exam assessment (Creating a Cross-Media Production) worth 30% of the A Level. Section A of the first exam focuses on Media Language and Representations, where you are asked to analyse two media forms (advertising/marketing and music video), while Section B focuses on Media Industries and Audiences, where you will analyse radio, newspapers and/or film. The second exam consists of analysis of the in-depth media forms of television, magazine and online, social and participatory media/video games. The non-exam assessment tests your understanding of the course's theoretical framework through its application in a practical production in response to one of six annually changing briefs, and you will produce a statement of intent to support your cross-media production made for an intended audience.

What degree courses and careers will this course be useful for?

Media Studies prepares students for degrees in Media, English, Journalism, Creative and Performing Arts and many more. It can be useful in a range of careers including Marketing, Sales and Advertising, Broadcast Media and Performing Arts, Journalism and Publishing, Leisure, Sport and Tourism.

Music

Monkton's music department prides itself on its abilities to enable every student to find their own voice. Like many other schools, we run a list of what might be termed 'standard' extra-curricular ensembles such as Senior Orchestra, Concert Band, Chamber Choir and Chapel Choir but in addition to these activities, we create groups based on the needs and abilities of our students, some of which change year upon year

At Monkton, we are very fortunate to have a state-of-the-art music department, complete with a recording studio and live rooms and an acoustically treated concert hall. It is for this reason that we offer Music Technology a part of our academic curriculum, although all students throughout the Sixth Form will have the opportunity to make use of these resources and gain a fundamental understanding of them.



Exam Board: Edexcel

What do I need before starting this course?

It is desirable but not essential to have taken Music at GCSE, as much of the background material needed for A Level would have been studied at this stage. A reasonable proficiency on an instrument is needed, with a standard equivalent to grade 6, and it will also be advantageous, although not absolutely necessary, to have passed the ABRSM Grade 5 Theory exam.

What will I learn?

You will gain a knowledge and understanding of how to deliver music as a soloist and/or as part of an ensemble. A performance of 6 minutes (minimum) is required in Year 12 and 8 minutes in Year 13. Performances may be recorded within the department's concert schedule. You will also learn how to generate coherent music as a composer with reference to particular briefs. Two compositions are required, totalling a minimum of 4 minutes in Year 12. In Year 13, you will produce one composition of 4 minutes duration alongside a short technical study brief. Set works are analysed and appraised within specific areas of musical study during both years.

How is this course structured and assessed?

There are three components to the course. The performing and composing components are worth 30% each and the appraising component is worth 40%. Coursework performances will be performed and recorded from March of a given exam year and the stimulus for composition coursework is available in September of each year.

What degree courses and careers will this course be useful for?

Music is regarded highly by universities as a subject that demonstrates both a creative and academic skill-set on behalf of the student. As an established subject, Music is accepted by all universities and is ideal for those going on to study music as part of a university course or at a music conservatoire. If you are looking to pursue a career as a professional musician/performer, composer/songwriter or session musician, or you are interested in working within the areas of music publishing, arts administration, arts education or the creative industries, then this course will surely benefit you.

Music Technology

The music industry is an ever changing, ever growing part of our society. Studying music technology will allow you to gain insight and understanding into some of its key features such as mixing, engineering, producing and composing. The course is a very practical one and you will spend a lot of time in our recording studios and live rooms developing your skill-set. Throughout the year there will be opportunities to use your developing skills in 'real-world' scenarios through your participation in concerts and other extracurricular activities.



Exam Board: Edexcel

What do I need before starting this course?

Whilst a GCSE in music is not a necessary requirement for this course, a fundamental knowledge of music production software (ideally Logic) is very important. We also require students to demonstrate practical competencies on a musical instrument, as there are aspects of the course that require students to act as session musicians for one another.

How is this course structured and assessed?

The course is split into four main components: Recording, composing using technology, listening and analysis and production and analysis.

You will be assessed on your ability to compose music using technology, to record music in a studio setting and to analyse music. 60% of this course is assessed through written examination and the remaining 40% is coursework submission. The written exam will require students to listen to and analyse unfamiliar music and complete various practical production exercises within Logic. There is also an essay writing segment on a specific part of music technology.

What will I learn?

The course is very practical in nature and offers students the opportunity to gain skills, knowledge and understanding in the following areas:

- Mixing and Mastering recording
- Live recording techniques (particularly mic placement and use of a mixing desk)
- Sequencing skills using Logic Pro X
- Songwriting and production
- Audio manipulation for creative purposes
- Principles of recording technology
- The development of recording and production technology

What degree courses and careers will this course be useful for?

This course is particularly useful for students wishing to pursue a career in the music industry. It will set students up well for the following career pathways:

- Mixing or mastering engineer
- Songwriting and production
- Performance (particularly pop music performance)
- Music Publishing
- Soundscape design
- Composition for Film and TV
- Work as a session musician

Photography

"There are almost too many possibilities. Photography is in direct proportion with our time: multiple, faster, instant. Because it is so easy, it will be more difficult." Ernst Haas

The study of Photography is a visual journey of exploration, through 'lens and light based media' - our aim is to undertake projects that stretch the appreciation and understanding of the place of photography culturally as well as globally. Photography pervades our lives at all levels and we explore through technical and conceptual projects the many possibilities that this exciting subject can offer.

The course covers darkroom and digital work, with the full Adobe Creative Suite available to all students. The large darkroom can print all black and white films, with pinholes, cyanotypes and other experimental processes readily available. There is also a lighting studio with a green screen with digital filmmaking equipment.



Exam Board: AQA - 7246

What do I need before starting this course?

Photography is offered to students who show an aptitude in the subject. An Art and Photography GCSE is recommended with at least a grade 5 (but it is not a prerequisite). You will need a digital SLR camera and a SLR film camera, although initially any good mobile phone will get you a long way.

What will I learn?

The emphasis of the first year course is the learning and practice of investigative skills - the process. In the second year, while the process is still important, the quality of the product has greater emphasis. In Year 13 students you will work on an individual project, "creating visual meaning through lens based media by an expressive response to a personal context or social issue".

How is the course structured?

Work is assessed internally throughout the year, with weekly or twice weekly assignments. Final work is marked internally, then moderated by an external examiner in June at the end of Year 13. There will be a termly charge for extra materials with this course.

What degree courses and careers will this course be useful for?

Students go on to the top courses in the country - Central St Martins, Kingston, Goldsmiths, CCW, AA, London College of Fashion, Falmouth, Bournemouth and Plymouth. The excellent local art colleges are also well attended. Most students will attend Foundation courses, although some Photography students prefer to apply straight to degree level.

Physical Education

Physical Education is a combination of Sport, Science, Psychology and Sociology. It is a wonderfully diverse subject that allows you to explore and gain an insight into the exciting world of sports performance, look beyond the classroom and apply Physical Education to your own sporting experiences as well as those of elite performers.



Exam Board: AQA

What do I need before starting this course?

A grade 6 in PE at GCSE is a good grounding but not essential. You should be an accomplished sports performer to at least first team school level in one sport. An interest in reading about sport, watching sport and discussing sport are mandatory.

What will I learn?

The course focuses on the theory behind 'participation and performance in physical activity as part of a balanced, active and healthy lifestyle'. The specification is designed to allow you to develop an understanding and appreciation of the factors that enable both yourself and others to be physically active as part of a balanced, active and healthy lifestyle. The factors studied will include physiological, psychological and socio-cultural aspects that have an impact on participation and performance in physical activities.

How is this course assessed?

There are three components that make up this A Level. Two are theoretical and will be assessed by a written exam in each area at the end of the two years (worth 70%). One ongoing component consists of a performance or coaching practical and a written/verbal evaluation and analysis of performance of a sport (worth 30%).

What degree courses and careers will this course be useful for?

Recent Monkton students have chosen some of the following sports-related courses and careers: Sports Science, Sports Studies, Sports Management, Sports Massage, Sports Coaching, Personal Training, Physiotherapy, PGCE PE Teaching, Sports Journalism, Sports Technology, Sports Psychology, Occupational Therapy and Dietician.

Physics

"Learn from yesterday, live for today, hope for tomorrow. The important thing is not to stop questioning." Albert Einstein

Physics is fundamental in explaining how the world around us works, from the structure of the proton to the movement of the galaxies. It illuminates our understanding of why the sun turns red in the evening, how we can speak across continents and why some bridges fall down.



Exam Board: OCR

What do I need before starting this course?

The most important requirement is a passion for understanding how the world works. On a more pragmatic level, students should have at least a grade 7 in Dual Award Science or Physics GCSE if taking the separate sciences. In addition, students need a grade 7 or above in Mathematics GCSE.

What will I learn?

A key emphasis at A Level is to base learning on personal investigations of the physical world using practical work as much as possible. Increasingly, Information Technology is playing a crucial role in revolutionising Physics research. Hence, ICT is used extensively in the course, from data-logging to simulations through to analytical packages. Finally, it is also of paramount importance that you get the chance to experience cutting edge research and to meet leading scientists. Therefore, the Department runs regular trips to institutions such as CERN in Geneva, the largest particle accelerator in the world, and JET in Oxfordshire, currently the largest nuclear fusion reactor in Europe and the Airbus factory in Bristol.

How is the course structured?

In Year 12, there are topics such as forces and projectiles, electricity and the wave/particle model of light which introduces quantum physics to the student. The second year then examines the ideas behind astrophysics, particle physics, fields and medical physics. Students taking the full A Level sit three papers (two of 135 minutes and one of 90 minutes).

What degree courses and careers will this course be useful for?

Taking Physics at A Level provides you with a wealth of opportunities to develop the career of his or her choosing, and will prove to be in demand from many different fields, be it scientific research, Engineering, Astronomy, Information Technology or Medicine. In addition, employers in the financial and commercial world value the analytical and logical mind of the physicist.

Psychology

Psychology aims to increase understanding of 'mind and behaviour'. This involves explaining a range of behaviours, including Attachment, Memory and Psychopathological conditions such as Schizophrenia and OCD. It covers understanding and critical analysis of theories and methodology (including basic statistical analysis) which develops a range of transferable skills valued by Higher Education and employers.



Exam Board: AQA

What do I need before starting this course?

Grade 6 in Biology and Mathematics are required for students taking Psychology.

What will I learn?

Psychology aims to introduce a range of psychological theories, models, and relevant research methods (including some statistical analysis). The course covers the main concepts of the Behavioural, Cognitive, Psychodynamic and Humanistic Approaches, as well as Bio-psychological explanations. These are examined in the context of our memory, early childhood experiences, social behaviour (conformity and obedience), stress responses, as well as psychopathology ('abnormal' behaviour). Some of this work is based on small scale practical projects. A key element is a focus on application of the material to 'real life' which is also reflected in the examinations.

How is this course assessed?

This A Level involves three papers at the end of Year 13. Question papers include a range of multiple choice and short answer questions together with short essays. During the course assessment will include essays, research reports and regular tests throughout the two years making use of each question style.

What degree courses and careers will this course be useful for?

As well as a subject in its own right, Psychology is also incorporated in other degree programmes, for example: Education, Sports Science, Management, Business, and Medicine. After graduation many avenues are open in specialist areas of Psychology, but Psychology graduates also go into Advertising, Marketing, Sales, Market Research, Personnel, General Management, the Media and many other professions. Psychology is about understanding people and so is applicable to a wide range of careers and life in general.

Spanish

El lenguaje ejerce un poder escondido, como la luna en la marea. – Rita Mae Brown

An A Level in a Modern Foreign Language is recognised as one of the highly regarded facilitating subjects for university applications, regardless of the course you might be interested in. A Level Spanish students will engage with all aspects of Spain and hispanophone in the knowledge that the ability to communicate in Spanish, the world's third most spoken language, is essential in our globalised world.

Our AQA A Level Spanish builds on the foundations of the GCSE syllabus, gaining skills that are vital for progression beyond school. Students immerse themselves in language acquisition through conversation, debates or translation skills. By advancing to reading and analysing original language texts and film, students gain an adeptness in communicating via crucial verbal and literary skills. A Level Spanish is a gateway to deepening an understanding of Spain and its diverse hispanophone cultures which enables students to have a breadth and knowledge of its history, culture, politics and - of course - the language.

We will be taking our Spanish language students to Andalucia in March 2024, with an annual Spanish trip thereafter.

The Languages Department at Monkton Senior School is fortunate to have native Spanish speakers on the teaching staff who bring to their classrooms a wealth of knowledge that is both academic and cultural. In this authentic and vibrant environment, our department offers a highly rewarding and stimulating A Level.

Exam Board: AQA

What do I need before starting this course?

Before starting the course it is essential that you have at least a grade 6 in Spanish at GCSE. We hope that you will have visited Spain or Spanish speaking countries and have some idea about the culture.

What will I learn?

You will gain an insight into the Spanish language and culture of Spain and Spanish speaking Latin America. In Year 12 include: family structure, customs and contemporary society; looking also at the impact of diversity. You will study the rich cultural heritage of Spanish-speaking countries, including music, cinema and the cult of the celebrity and explore the influence of the past on present-day Hispanic communities through texts and film. Each year, along with your teacher and your peers, we choose a text and film from the syllabus. There is also an Independent Research Project related to your Spanish studies on a subject of your choice. By giving you more agency we hope this makes the study of these cultural aspects of the syllabus all the more exciting! Grammar is an important part of the course, but we try to make it as pain free as possible. You will learn to express yourselves fluently and accurately in Spanish and be encouraged to speak Spanish at all times in class.

How is the course structured and assessed?

The course is linear and exams of all four skills are tested at the end of the second year. The lessons are conducted by two teachers with lessons in the target language, although the more complex structures will generally be explained in English. There are seven lessons per week in Year 12 and eight lessons per week in Year 13. In addition a set time for 1-1 Conversation is timetabled for you and these sessions allow you to practise Speaking skills and also familiarise yourself with the Independent Research Project Assessment, which you will undertake to research in Year 12 and complete at the end of Year 13. There is a great emphasis on class participation, research and presentations.

What degree courses and careers will this course be useful for?

There are language courses on offer at all universities. We have had pupils go on to study Spanish with languages such as Arabic, Mandarin or Korean. Your Year Abroad could take you to Spanish fashion houses, museums or galleries, enabling you to make further stepping stones beyond university. Apart from the study of a language providing you with many practical and transferable skills, research shows us that language graduates are highly sought after by employers.

Textiles

*"There are no boundaries for what can be fabric."
Issey Miyake*

Textiles A Level encourages a thoughtful and conceptual approach to working with fabric: into it, with it, printing on it, virtually or using it in three dimensions. Covering ideas that work directly with pattern design, fashion design, installation, surface embellishment, printmaking, digital design and interior design. Textiles A Level is a gateway into the creative industries, and offers the transferable skills in creative thinking and ideas development, including sustained project planning and research.

We aim to stretch the imagination of students as they approach their work, to help them build a skill base that can allow for creative development and portfolio preparation for entering a career, in the arts via a degree or other pathways such as an art and design foundation course.

Our purpose-built art and design facility includes gallery space, sewing room, design workshop, photographic dark room, 3 IT facilities for CAD and animation, printmaking, library and dedicated studios for Junior, GCSE and Sixth Form teaching. In the Sixth Form each student gets their own space in which to work, adding to a sense of ownership and helping their work develop in exciting ways. We have an open studio philosophy which allows for cross discipline learning and ideas sharing.



Exam Board: AQA - 7244

What do I need before starting this course?

Textiles is offered to candidates who demonstrate ability and interest in the subject, a grade 5 or above in GCSE Art, or a competent portfolio of work.

What will I learn?

You should produce practical, digital and critical/contextual work in one or more areas of study, for example, fashion design, fashion textiles, costume design, digital textiles, printed and/or dyed fabrics and materials, domestic textiles, wallpaper, interior design, constructed textiles, art textiles and installed textiles.

How is the course assessed?

Work is assessed internally throughout the year, with weekly or twice weekly assignments. Final work is marked internally, then moderated by an external examiner in June at the end of Year 13. There might be a termly charge for extra materials with this course.

What degree courses and careers will this course be useful for?

Students go on to the top courses in the country – London College of Fashion, Central St Martins, Kingston, Wimbledon College of Art, Bournemouth, Falmouth, Manchester and Plymouth. Local art colleges are also well attended. The courses students typically choose after studying this course include Fashion Design, Fashion Marketing, Fashion Illustration, Costume and Performance design, Textile Design, Textiles in Practice and Textile Art and Artefact, Fine Art, Graphic Design and other academic pathways such as Geography, English, Midwifery and Nursing.

Theology, Philosophy & Ethics

“An unexamined life is not worth living.” (*Socrates*)

Studying Theology, Philosophy and Ethics at Monkton is a dynamic and growing experience that will challenge you to see the world in new ways. With a focus on discussion, debate and investigation alongside individualised support, you will find yourself developing skills that will last a lifetime.

The course content is wide ranging, giving you the opportunity to explore some of the key ideas and arguments that have shaped many of the attitudes and beliefs of our time.

In Theology you will consider questions of interpretation and reliability of New Testament texts, as well as the evidence for the death and resurrection of Jesus along with scientific and historical criticisms of these doctrines.

Philosophy is all about understanding different views about truth, meaning, the role of language and of science in discovering and communicating purpose, and wrestling with questions about why evil and suffering exist and what the implications of that might be for belief in a good God.

In Ethics, you will research issues ranging from climate change to ethical and religious concepts of equality in year one, and then sexual and medical ethics along with war and peace in year two. You will discover a range of ethical theories and apply them to real life contexts.

The course is underpinned by a rich programme of extra-curricular talks, debates and discussion groups, all of which will help you develop the skills and ideas you need to prepare you for life beyond Monkton.

Exam Board: Edexcel

What do I need before starting this course?

It is preferable to have at least a grade 6 in TPE, History or English to get the most out of this course. However, there is no need to have a GCSE in this subject to be successful at A Level TPE. All you need is a willingness to ask questions, read and research widely, and a desire to develop articulacy in expressing your views and ideas.

What will I learn?

The modules we study at A Level, are Philosophy of Religion, Religious Ethics and New Testament Studies. You will ultimately learn about yourself as well, as you uncover the reasons behind your own thinking and decision making processes: what causes you to think and behave in the way you do?

How is this course assessed?

There is no coursework in this subject. You will take 3 exams at the end of Year 13.

What degree courses and careers will this course be useful for?

TPE is highly regarded and is accepted by all universities. It is a popular A Level as it can lead into so many different courses and careers, from the humanities to the sciences, as the skills you acquire are easily transferable. It is particularly valuable for those considering Law, English, Politics or Business.



Important Dates, Contacts and making choices

Senior School Open Morning: Saturday 7th October 2023, 10am-12pm

Sixth Form Open Evening: Friday 13th October, 6.30pm-9pm

Year 11 Sixth Form Taster Day: Tuesday 14th November 2023

Deadline of return of Online Preference Forms to Assistant Head Academic: Wednesday 6th December 2023

A level Option Blocks Published: Tuesday 30th January 2024

Deadline for return of Choices Forms to Assistant Head Academic (for current Monkton students) or Admissions (for new students):
Monday 26th February 2024

For those applying to join Monkton in the Sixth Form from other schools, Monkton's Head of Admissions is your point of contact.

Email them on admissions@monkton.org.uk or phone **+44 (0) 1225 721133**

For current pupils at Monkton, talk to your Tutor about your choices, as well as relevant Heads of Departments.

All those who are registered for the Sixth Form will receive a Preference Form to fill in by **6th December 2023** - on this you will be able to indicate which subjects you have a preference for, and how strong your preference is.

After the blocks are published on **Tuesday 30th January 2024** (which are based on all the Preference Form returns), you will be sent a Choices Form to fill in by **Monday 26th February 2024** - this will be your final set of A Level choices.

As far as is possible, we try to accommodate any change of heart even after this deadline.



Monkton Senior School

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