



St John Fisher
Catholic High School



Sixth Form Prospectus

2026-2028

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Our Vision

St John Fisher School is an inclusive and welcoming Catholic community, committed to excellence, success and lifelong learning.

Each individual is valued and supported to reach their full potential as a Child of God.

Mission Statement

“I have come that they may have life and have it to the full”

St John's Gospel Chapter 10

St John Fisher Catholic High School provides a learning environment in which:

- We know through our spirituality that everyone is a loved creation of God and that every person has a lesson they can teach someone else.
- We will take every opportunity to help each other and those less fortunate than ourselves.
- We will do our best to reach our aspirations and celebrate our successes.

From the Headteacher

Dear Student

Thank you for considering St John Fisher as the place for your post-16 studies. I hope that this prospectus enables you to acquire a good understanding of our school, the opportunities open to you should you decide to enrol here and the wide range of subjects offered.

'Where to' and 'What to' study are very important decisions for you to make at this exciting stage of life. You should make these decisions based on what will allow you to flourish and be successful. We want everyone to be able to live out our motto which Jesus said: 'I have come that they may have life and live it to the full.'

In such a fast-moving world, making the decision whether to continue in a sixth form, study A levels or vocational subjects, go to college or start an apprenticeship can seem overwhelming. Therefore, I encourage you to draw on the support around you: from your teachers, parents/carers and external agencies so that you make the right choice for you.

We are very proud of our sixth form and the students who continue their learning with us. They are superb role models to their peers and younger students alike. Our students wilfully and actively integrate themselves into the St John Fisher community. You would be most welcome to become part of this community and we look forward to greeting you next academic year.

Mrs N Wilmore

Headteacher

The Sixth Form at St John Fisher

The heart of the St John Fisher Sixth Form is rooted in three key values, we want all of our Sixth Form students to be respectful, take responsibility for themselves and be resilient in the challenges that they may face. As a Catholic school we aim to develop each of our student's unique strengths in an environment where they are able to flourish not only academically but also socially, morally and spiritually.

Although a small Sixth Form, we pride ourselves on offering a supportive environment, where each student is known to the Sixth Form team, their form tutor, teachers and the school community. As a part of this support, we aim to develop the whole student and prepare them for life after the Sixth Form, whether that be employment, an apprenticeship or University.

Sixth Form life offers students many new experiences and opportunities. We will support each individual throughout their development of excellent learning habits and becoming a truly independent learner in preparation for the future.

It is for this reason that each student will have their own personalised programme for study based on the subjects they wish to study, their needs, aspirations and interests. In addition, our school works in partnership with The King's School and is therefore able to offer a wider selection of courses for study at A Level.

I look forward to welcoming you to the St John Fisher Sixth Form.

Mrs Reay

Head of Sixth Form

Spiritual, Moral, Social, Cultural and Physical Development

Core RE

As a Catholic school, Core RE is an important part of our curriculum. You will study four different perspectives/areas of study: Revelation, Community, Celebration and Way of Life. There is also an annual Sixth Form retreat on one of the two Focus Days.

Core PE

In order to encourage a healthy lifestyle and to continue your interest in a broad selection of activities, you will study one lesson per week of PE. There is no formal assessment for Physical Education at Key Stage 5. Some of the activities are: Badminton, Basketball, Fitness, Netball, Rugby and Trampolining.

Active Citizenship

All students study PSHE, which also covers key employability skills to prepare students for life beyond the Sixth Form.

In addition there are many enrichment opportunities including:

- Sports Leadership
- Extended Project Qualification
- Work Experience
- Volunteering
- Participation in form and house assemblies
- Student Leadership Team
- Paid lunchtime supervisor positions

Life in the Sixth Form Get Involved!

If you are enthusiastic and keen to get involved in school activities... the Sixth Form is the place for you to be!

Reading Buddies

Students act as Reading Buddies by meeting Year 7 students during two registration periods per week. This is an invaluable activity, which has a proven track record of success. The Year 7 students' confidence builds as does their level of literacy. The reading buddy is rewarded by being part of this younger person's success.

Leadership Opportunities

St John Fisher Catholic High School provides many roles which require our students to develop their leadership skills:

- Head Students and Deputies,
- House Ambassadors (who are responsible for mentoring and supporting students as well as organising social and charity events);
- Student Voice Ambassadors (who are responsible for organising opportunities for students to have their say in key school decisions);
- School Tours and Interview Ambassadors (who showcase the school for different events and are involved in interviewing new staff).

If you are interested in any of these Ambassador roles, you will need to demonstrate creative ideas and a proactive approach.

The Great Get Together

Alongside the Sixth Form Student Leadership Team, Sixth Form students organise 'The Great Get Together' - an opportunity for all students to share food and eat together. This event was inspired by Jo Cox MP to celebrate that we have more in common than that which divides us.

Social Events

Social events differ from year to year but previous events include the Sixth Form Christmas Meal, Summer BBQ, West End Theatre visits, bowling trips, Houses of Parliament visit and the Year 13 Prom.



Entry Requirements: Vocational qualifications

To study Level 3 Vocational courses (Health and Social Care, Business, IT), you must have achieved at least 4 Grades 9 - 4 including a 4 in English Language. To study Level 3 Vocational course in Sports Scholarship, you must have achieved at least 4 Grades 9 – 3, including a 4 in English Language.

Business (Cambridge Technical)	Grade 4 or above in English Language and Grade 4 or above in 3 other GCSEs
Health and Social Care (Cambridge Advanced National) and Early Childhood Development (BTEC National)	Grade 4 or above in English Language and Grade 4 or above in 3 other GCSEs
Computing: App development and IT: Data Analytics (Cambridge Technical)	Grade 4 or above in English Language and Grade 4 or above in 3 other GCSEs
Sports and Physical Activity (Cambridge Technical)	Grade 4 or above in English Language and Grade 3 or above in 3 other GCSEs

Entry Requirements: A Levels

In order to enter our Sixth Form to study A Levels, you must have achieved **at least 5 GCSEs at Grades 9 - 5, including English Language** and also in Maths if you wish to study STEM subjects. There are specific entry requirements for the subjects listed below:

A Level Art, Craft and Design (AQA)	An extensive and high quality portfolio of work or Grade 5 or above in GCSE Art or Textiles
A Level Biology (AQA)	Grades 76 or above in GCSE Combined Science and a grade 6 or above in GCSE Maths Grade 7 or above in GCSE Biology and grade 6 or above in GCSE Chemistry and Physics, and a grade 6 or above in Maths
A Level Chemistry (AQA)	Grades 76 or above in GCSE Combined Science and a grade 6 or above in GCSE Maths Grade 7 or above in GCSE Chemistry and grade 6 or above in GCSE Biology and Physics, and a grade 6 or above in Maths
A Level Economics (OCR)	Grade 6 or above in Maths and English Language
A Level English Literature and Language Combined (OCR)	Grade 5 or above in GCSE English
A Level English Literature (OCR)	Grade 6 or above in GCSE English Literature
A Level Environmental Science (AQA)	Grade 55 in GCSE Combined Science or 555 in separate sciences and a grade 4 in GCSE Maths
A Level Geography (OCR)	Grade 6 or above in GCSE Geography
A Level History (Edexcel)	Grade 6 or above in GCSE History or Level 6 in GCSE English
A level Mathematics (AQA)	Grade 6 or above in GCSE Maths
A Level Physics (Edexcel)	Grade 77 or above in GCSE Science
A Level Politics	Grade 6 or above in GCSE History or Grade 6 in GCSE English Language
A Level Psychology (AQA)	Grade 6 or above in GCSE Maths and English Language
A Level Religious Studies (Edexcel)	Grade 6 or above in GCSE RE and Level 5 in GCSE English
A Level Sociology (OCR)	Grade 6 or above in GCSE English

Please read through the Post 16 Admissions on page 32 of this Prospectus for details of general admission to the Sixth Form.

A Level Art, Craft and Design (AQA)

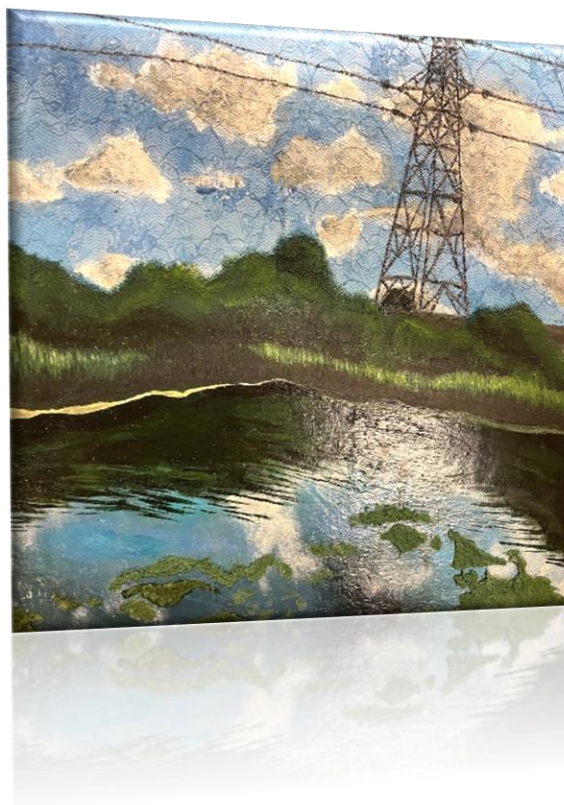
What does this course involve?

This Art course engages students in practical studio work, which is informed by relevant contextual study. Art and Design promotes an experimental approach using a wide range of media including, painting, print, mixed media and digital imagery. Observational drawing underpins all Art practice and is seen as an essential requirement for the course.

You are encouraged to further your artistic interests, understanding and skills whilst developing a personal creative response within the supportive environment of the art studios. The appreciation and study of art is integral to the course and this culminates in the second year with an illustrated written study of between 1,000 and 3,000 words.

The major requirement for A level Art and Design courses is the need to be creative, original and flexible and have a strong independent work ethic.

These courses offer exploration and experimentation with a wide range of materials and processes that encourage and nurture the creative process.



What will I study?

Throughout the course you will be encouraged to build upon both traditional and contemporary methods of working. You are instructed to develop personal responses to a variety of themes exploring your own independent thoughts and ideas. Throughout the course emphasis is placed upon line, tone, colour, texture, shape, form and space. You may work with a variety of media, such as paints, pastels, pencils, pen, ink, water-colours, fabric, print and digital and are encouraged to develop a multi-media approach. You can select one approach or combine techniques as you progress.

How is the course assessed?

All coursework is internally assessed by subject tutors and then externally verified by an exam board moderator. You will produce a portfolio of work which will be worth 100% of your Year 12 grade. You will not sit an exam until the end of Year 13. You will produce a written study in Year 13.

A Level Biology (AQA)

What does this course involve?

The course involves a diverse range of topic areas, essentially the study of living things, from minute bacteria to the enormous blue whale and from tiny algae to a gigantic aspen tree, and the changes that take place between them and their environment. You will complete practical work as an integral part of the course.

What will I study?

- Topic 1: Biological molecules
- Topic 2: Cells
- Topic 3: Organisms exchange substances with their environment
- Topic 4: Genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms
- Topic 5: Energy transfer in and between organisms
- Topic 6: Organisms respond to changes in their internal and external environments
- Topic 7: Genetic, populations, evolution and ecosystems
- Topic 8: The control of gene expression

How is the course assessed?

All topics are assessed at the end of year 13 in 3 written exams for the full A level. Practical skills will be assessed within the written exams as well as a practical endorsement with the full A level.



"It's been a pleasure to study biology at St John Fisher with my biology teachers who are always willing to help and encourage us to continue studying no matter what. One of the most enjoyable topics in Year 12 was studying Gas Exchange in insects and their unique structures allowing them to exchange gases."

Year 12 Student

Level 3 Business Extended Certificate (Cambridge Technical)

What does this course involve?

Extended Certificate in Business is a subject, directly related to the exciting real world of business. You will learn by completing tasks and assignments that are based on realistic workplace situations activities and projects.

What will I study?

The course consists of 5 units including 3 mandatory units and 2 optional units. The mandatory units are:

- The Business Environment
- Working in Business
- Customers and Communication

The optional units will be chosen to fit the needs and interests of the students on the course.

How is the course assessed?

The Level 3 Extended Certificate is coursework and exam based. After you have been taught how to complete the assignments, you will be closely guided through the completion of drafts of all of your work. All coursework is marked by your teachers and some moderated by the exam board. 2 out of the 5 units will be assessed by externally set examination from the exam board.

What can I do after this course?

There is potential for the qualification to prepare you for employment and to provide skills and techniques required to progress into University and it is suitable for those who have decided that they wish to enter a particular area of work. A Level 3 Extended Certificate in Business will give you the basic skills and knowledge you require in areas such as finance, law, economics, management and marketing.

Why did I choose Cambridge technical Business?

"I chose Business as I was interested in the different parts it has. Sometimes we could be studying about finance ready for the exam and at other times we could be studying something different like Advertising for our coursework. This mixed learning worked well for me."

Year 12 Student

A Level Chemistry (AQA)

What does this course involve?

Chemistry is the study of the properties of the materials in the world around us. The chemist looks at and tries to interpret changes in materials, from the apparently simple, such as the burning of hydrogen, to the more complex, such as reactions in the body. At the same time, the chemist may be interested in energy changes, or how fast a reaction proceeds. Another important aspect is working out the structure of materials and identifying their constituents. The chemist employs his or her skills to use both simple and complex analytical techniques to determine the composition of every kind of substance. Research and development of new materials is a most important part of chemistry. These new materials include drugs, plastics, rubbers and detergents to name but a few. These are just some of the things which chemistry involves; look around you and you will see the work of the chemist everywhere.



What will I study?

The AQA Chemistry course builds upon the principles learnt at GCSE as well as introducing new concepts. Aspects of the three strands of chemistry are studied in year 12 and then developed further in year 13:

- Physical
- Organic
- Inorganic

How is the course assessed?

Students will be assessed by examinations. There are 3 exams which assess all content, including practical skills.

During the 2 years of study students will also be assessed, in the laboratory, on their practical skill and will have the opportunity to achieve a Practical Endorsement in addition to their A level grade.

"Fun and exhilarating practicals."

Year 13 Student

"Changed my perspective on careers"

Year 13 Student

A Level Economics (OCR)

What does this course involve?

A Level Economics builds the knowledge and skills needed to understand and analyse data, think critically about issues and make informed economic decisions. This is vital in a fast-paced society where Economic issues are now reported by the minute and affect everyone.

What will I study?

You will learn about how the economy works, how individuals and firms make decisions and what policies may be adopted by policymakers to help improve society, both nationally and internationally. In lessons you will experience an interesting and challenging learning experience which includes discussion, debates, topical economic issues, visits to Economic conferences and the opportunity to put your analytical and evaluative skills to practical use.

By studying A Level Economics you will be given the chance to not only achieve great success within the classroom but also outside of it. A Level Economics students are given the opportunity to take part in a range of challenges and competitions such as the Royal Economic Society Essay competition and IEA Budget Challenge.

How is the course assessed?

Content Overview	Assessment Overview	
<p>Component 01 will assess:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introduction to microeconomics• The role of markets• Business objectives• Market structures• The labour market <p>Component 02 will assess:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Aggregate demand and aggregate supply• Economic policy objectives• Implementing policy• The global context• The financial sector <p>In component 03 students will draw together their knowledge and skills to answer questions from across all content areas.</p>	<p>Microeconomics (01)</p> <p>80 marks</p> <p>2 hour written paper</p>	<p>33.33%</p> <p>of total A level</p>
	<p>Macroeconomics (02)</p> <p>80 marks</p> <p>2 hour written paper</p>	<p>33.33%</p> <p>of total A level</p>
	<p>Themes in economics* (03)</p> <p>80 marks</p> <p>2 hour written paper</p>	<p>33.33%</p> <p>of total A level</p>

* Indicates synoptic assessment

What can I do after this course?

A-Level Economics is an excellent foundation for a university degree, especially degrees in Economics, Management, Research Methods, Mathematics, Finance, Law, Philosophy, Politics and Economic Development. Economics also offers a range of career possibilities including the civil service, think tanks, banks, insurance and accountancy and not-for profit organisations.

A Level English Literature and Language Combined

What does this course involve?

A Level English Language and Literature (EMC) presents clear continuity from GCSE English and GCSE English Literature with the study of literary and non-fiction written and spoken texts. The course also enables students to develop their creativity and expertise by producing their own original writing. Students will study four components and complete an NEA as their fourth component. Students must be capable of dealing with concepts and need writing skills demonstrated by a minimum of a grade 5 in their GCSE results in Language or Literature.

What will I study?

Component 1

- Component 01 focuses on an OCR (EMC) anthology of 20 non-fiction spoken and written texts across different time periods and contexts.
- Comparative and contextual study based on the anthology and unseen texts.

Component 2

- Component 02 focuses on one poetry collection from a choice of six and one drama text from a choice of six.
- Exploration of the texts through stylistic and dramatic analysis.

Component 3

- Component 03 focuses on exploring the nature of narrative in one prose fiction text from a choice of six.
- Writing as a reader develops the understanding of narrative technique through a creative writing task (500 words) and a commentary (250 words).

Component 4

- Independent study allowing learners to pursue particular interests and develop their expertise through an analytical comparative essay on a set text from a list of 12 non-fiction texts and a second free choice text. One text must be post-2000.
- Learners also produce a piece of original non-fiction writing.

How is the course assessed?

Component 1 - Closed text, 32 marks Written paper: 1 hour (16% of Total)

Component 2 - Closed text, 64 marks Written paper: 2 hours (32% of Total)

Component 3 - Open text, 64 marks Written paper: 2 hours (32% of Total)

Component 4 - Non-exam assessment: 40 marks (20% of Total)

A Level English Literature (OCR)

What does this course involve?

The A level course is comprised of three units over two years. Students study a minimum of eight texts, including at least two examples of each of the genres of prose, poetry and drama, to develop their ability to analyse and evaluate literary texts across a variety of genres and periods. Students must be capable of dealing with concepts and need writing skills demonstrated by a minimum of a grade 6 in their GCSE results.

What will I study?

Component 01: Drama and Poetry Pre-1900

In Section 1: Shakespeare, students study one Shakespeare play from the following:

- Coriolanus
- Hamlet
- Measure for Measure
- Richard III
- The Tempest
- Twelfth Night

In Section 2:

Drama and poetry pre-1900, students' study one pre-1900 drama text and one pre-1900 poetry text.

- Drama texts:
 - Christopher Marlowe: Edward II
 - John Webster: The Duchess of Malfi
 - Oliver Goldsmith: She Stoops to Conquer
 - Henrik Ibsen: A Doll's House
 - Oscar Wilde: An Ideal Husband
- Poetry texts:
 - Geoffrey Chaucer: The Merchant's Prologue and Tale
 - John Milton: Paradise Lost Books 9 & 10
 - Samuel Taylor Coleridge: Selected Poems
 - Alfred, Lord Tennyson: Maud
 - Christina Rossetti: Selected Poems

Component 02: Comparative and contextual study

There are five topic areas:

- American Literature 1880—1940
- The Gothic
- Dystopia
- Women in Literature
- The Immigrant Experience

Students choose one topic area and study at least two whole texts, one of which must be from the core set text list for their chosen topic area:

- American Literature 1880-1940
 - F. Scott Fitzgerald: The Great Gatsby
 - John Steinbeck: The Grapes of Wrath
- The Gothic
 - Angela Carter: The Bloody Chamber and Other Stories
 - Bram Stoker: Dracula
- Dystopia
 - Margaret Atwood: The Handmaid's Tale
 - George Orwell: Nineteen Eighty-Four
- Women in Literature
 - Jane Austen: Sense and Sensibility
 - Virginia Woolf: Mrs Dalloway
- The Immigrant Experience
 - Mohsin Hamid: The Reluctant Fundamentalist
 - Henry Roth: Call It Sleep

Component 03: Literature Post-1900

This component encourages individual study, interest and enjoyment of modern literature. Students study three literary texts, which must include one prose text, one poetry text, and one drama text. All texts must have been first published or performed after 1900, and at least one must have been first published or performed after 2000. Texts in translation are not permitted. There are two tasks:

- Close reading or re-creative writing with commentary – both must be based on one literary text
- Comparative essay – must be based on two literary texts.

"One of the reasons I love this A Level is how you can express your personal views and passions in each essay. When studying both older and modern texts you will always be able to recognise a theme/debate that's relevant now, I think it's beautiful to see how fiction reflects reality."

Year 12 Student

How is the course assessed?

Written examination: 2 hours, 30 minutes, 40% of qualification. Closed text exam.

A Level Environmental Science (AQA)

What does this course involve?

This course is well suited to students who enjoy a multi-disciplinary approach to learning and have a keen interest in the sustainability of our planet. Your lessons will be engaging and thought provoking, with opportunities to include real life case studies in your learning. This is a great accompaniment to A-levels in geography, biology, physics and maths and develops key skills including communication, teamwork and critical thinking.

What will I study?

- The living environment
- The physical environment
- Energy resources
- Pollution
- Biological resources
- Sustainability
- Research methods



How is the course assessed?

All topics are assessed at the end of year 13 in 2 written exams for the full A level. Exams include a combination of multiple choice, short answer and extended writing questions and are 3 hours long. Each paper accounts for 50% of the A Level grade.

A Level Geography (OCR)

What does this course involve?

Geography is an essential component in preparing young people for life in the twenty-first century. As the pace of change quickens, communications get faster and challenges to the environment multiply, a knowledge and understanding of geography is more vital than ever. Geography is unique in its study of human and physical patterns and the interaction of people and their environment in shaping the landscape. To supplement our A Level course, we offer a huge range so Super - Curricular opportunities including on-line lectures from universities such as Sheffield and UAE. We also expect all students to participate in our micro-lecture programme sponsored by the Royal Geographical Society.

Fieldwork is central to geography at King's and within the OCR specification we study. Geography is the study of the real world and therefore students have the opportunity to immerse themselves in a range of different environments. All students are required to attend a four-day residential fieldwork course in the Yorkshire Wolds to practice their skills in the field, which in 2024 took place in July and cost £375. There is also an option to join us in Iceland in March 2025, costing a maximum of £1,400 for an exciting and packed 5-day tour.



We are considered by universities to be a facilitating subject, supporting study in most other academic and vocational courses. But an advanced Geography qualification will place you in a very employable position, with a wide breadth of skills and knowledge. Whether you consider yourself stronger at the Humanities or the Sciences, Geography is an excellent companion to your other courses. We encourage students to discuss topical issues, analyse data and to search for patterns. These transferable skills are obviously very desirable and would make you a strong applicant for careers law, accountancy, architecture and a full range of other choices including medicine. Geographers have a very high employability rate due to the increasing demand from our UK's growing green economy.

What will I study?

Three units are examination based. There is one piece of coursework:

- Unit 1: Tectonic Processes and Hazards; Coastal Landscapes and Change; The Water Cycle and Water Insecurity; The Carbon Cycle.
- Unit 2: Globalisation; Regenerating Places; Superpowers Global Development and Connections; Migration, Identity and Sovereignty.
- Unit 3: Synoptic Themes.
- Unit 4: Coursework.
- Fieldwork.

How is the course assessed?

A Level Geography is assessed by examination and coursework.
All A Level examinations are taken in June of Year 13.

Cambridge OCR Level 3 Alternative Academic Qualification Cambridge Advanced National in Health and Social Care

This Level 3 qualification is equivalent to one A-Level and is designed to prepare students for Higher Education or direct entry into the workplace. It enables the development of sector-specific knowledge and practical skills through a balance of external exams and coursework.

The Extended Certificate in Health and Social Care will develop knowledge, understanding and skills that will prepare students for progression to undergraduate study. It covers equality, diversity and rights, health and safety, anatomy and physiology, person-centred approaches, mental health, long-term physiological conditions, public health strategies, sexual health and nutrition and lifestyles.

Course Content (6 Units)

- Principles of Health and Social Care (Exam)
- Anatomy and Physiology for Health and Social Care (Exam)
- Person-Centred Approach to Care (Coursework)
- Supporting People with Mental Health Conditions (Coursework)
- Supporting People in Relation to Sexual Health, Pregnancy, and Postnatal Health (Coursework)
- Supporting Healthy Nutrition and Lifestyles (Coursework)

The subjects that complement this qualification

- Biology
- Child Development
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Sport

Destinations and Career Pathways

Higher Education Courses Include:

- BSc (Hons) in Adult, Child, and Mental Health Nursing
- BA (Hons) in Social Work
- BSc (Hons) in Occupational Therapy
- BSc (Hons) in Midwifery
- BSc (Hons) Psychology with Criminology
- BSc (Hons) in Operating Department Practice
- BSc Paramedic Science

Direct Employment Roles Include: - Healthcare Assistant, Pharmacy Assistant,- NHS Administrative Roles,- Doctors' Receptionist

Pearson Level 3 Alternative Academic Qualification BTEC National in Early Childhood Development (Extended Certificate)

Equivalent to one A Level in size, it is suitable for students looking to develop their applied knowledge and skills in Education and Early Years as part of a study programme alongside A Levels.

What will the student study as part of this qualification?

The qualification has been developed in consultation with higher education representatives and sector experts to ensure students have the knowledge, understanding and skills they need to progress to, and thrive in, higher education.

The qualification has four mandatory units covering the following topics:

Children's development – Children's developmental progress from birth up to eight years, including the theories, principles and factors relating to development, and the potential impact of a range of factors on a child's progress through the developmental milestones.

Keeping Children Safe – Health and safety and safeguarding responsibilities of an individual working in an early years setting; emergency best practices and when to address concerns about a child's welfare.

Play and Learning – The concept of play, the influence of theories and approaches to play, and the benefits of play and learning activities for children.

Research and Reflective Practice – The influence of research findings on policy and provision for children and how this influences the behaviours and expectations of an individual working in an early years setting.

Which subjects will complement this qualification?

The following subjects would be suitable to combine with this qualification:

- Sociology
- Psychology
- Biology
- English.

What further learning will this qualification lead to?

- Nursing – BSc (Hons) Adult Nursing, Nursing – Child – BSc (Hons)
- Teacher Training – Childhood and Early Years Studies BA (Hons)
- Social Work – BA (Hons) Social Work
- Psychology – Psychology BSc (Hons)

A Level History (Edexcel)

What does this course involve?

The A Level History qualification allows candidates to demonstrate the highest aptitude, literacy, discipline and intelligence. It provides a curriculum designed to ignite and engage students' passions and interest. The content will create independent learners, critical thinkers and decision-makers. These personal skills will make you stand out as you progress to higher education or the workplace.

What will I study?

Paper 1: Breadth study with interpretations:

- Britain 1625-1701: conflict, revolution and settlement
- The quest of political stability 1625-88
- Religion: conflict and dissent 1625-88
- Social and intellectual challenge 1625-88
- Economy, trade and empire 1625-88
- The changing quality of life, 1918-79

Paper 2: Depth study:

- Russia in revolution 1894-1924
- The rule of Nicholas II, 1894-1905
- The end of Romanov rule, 1906-17
- The Provisional government and its opponents, February-October 1917
- Defending the Bolshevik revolution, October 1917-24

Paper 3: Themes in breadth with aspects in depth:

- The witch craze in Britain, Europe and North America, c1580-c1750

- Changing attitudes to witchcraft in Britain

The wider intellectual context:

- The coming of the age of science and reason
- The North Berwick witches in Scotland, 1590-91 and the aftermath to 1597
- The Lancashire witches of 1604-13
- The Great Witch Hunt, in Bamberg, Germany, 1623-32
- Matthew Hopkins and the East Anglian witch craze, 1645-47
- Cotton Mather and the Salem witch hunt, 1692-93

Paper 4: Coursework

The coursework will be assessed using a centre-set assignment. Assignments must meet the requirements detailed below. An assignment framework is provided to support the development of individual assignments.

How is the course assessed?

This is a linear A Level with all exams being taken at the end of Year 13. Coursework is worth 20% of the qualification.

"I have been interested in history since GCSE and after doing well in my exams. I decided to study it at a further level, I enjoy how complex it is and how many factors are taken into consideration when coming to conclusions. Additionally, through history I have been able to improve my essay writing structure which will be useful for me at university."

Year 13 Student



**Charles I in three positions
Anthony van Dyck 1635**

Level 3 Cambridge Advanced National in Computing: Application Development

Note: Only one IT course can be selected

What does this course involve?

This is an exciting, brand new course that will allow you to learn more about how applications are developed. You will gain practical experience of real-life contexts looking at planning, designing and making User Interface and User Experience solutions. The course is a mix of theory and practical skills that will allow you to demonstrate a large number of different skills.



What will I study?

The course is made up of five units over the 2 years.

Three compulsory units:

- Fundamentals of application development
- Developing application software
- Designing and communicating UX/UI solutions

Two optional units including:

- Games development
- Website development

How is the course assessed?

The course is assessed with two examinations and three NEA pieces of work set by the examination board and marked by your teacher.

What can I do after this course?

This is a perfect course if you want to go on to study any computer science type degree from programming to cyber security. It is also aimed at people wanting to go on to study user experience design.

"The reason why I have chosen this course is because I have always had an interest in technology as well as this I thought that this course would be good for me as it's something I would want to go deeper into through a university course like computer science. I think that this course has a lot of interesting subjects, for example, application development and the IOE as they are both topics that contain a lot of information and they are both topics that are always adapting and increasing in popularity. Furthermore IT in general is always adapting which also peaked my interest and was one of the reasons why I decided to take this course as the IT industry is ever evolving which is why I have been interested in the course for a long period of time and why I have decided to take it."

Year 12 Student

Level 3 Cambridge Advanced National in IT: Data Analytics

Note: Only one IT course can be selected

What does this course involve?

This is an exciting, brand new course that will allow you to develop skills used in any role using IT and data. There will be opportunities to learn skills about communication, project development and time management, alongside more IT based skills.

What will I study?

The course is made up of five units over the 2 years.

Three compulsory units:

- Fundamentals of data analytics
- Big data and machine learning
- Spreadsheet data modelling

Two optional units:

- Data and digital marketing
- Data and the Internet of Everything or
- Relational database design

How is the course assessed?

The course is assessed with two examinations and three NEA pieces of work set by the examination board and marked by your teacher.

What can I do after this course?

This is a perfect course if you want to go on to study or work in any field that uses IT. It is also perfect for those interested in Business Analytics, Information Technology and Digital Marketing.

"I wanted to write and say how useful the IT based units for the Cambridge Technical have been for my Business and IT degree. I especially enjoyed the unit about social media and digital marketing. I really enjoyed looking at how social media can help a business and making a proposal for a company. In fact one of the tasks that I completed where I investigated the impact of social media on a campaign was the same task for uni and I got a "first"! The Internet of Everything was also fascinating, looking at how the internet has an impact on so many devices linking us all together. I thoroughly recommend anyone in Year 11 to consider studying IT based courses for their Post 16 options to help them in all aspects of their future lives"

ARU First class honours degree graduate

A Level Mathematics (AQA)

What does this course involve?

The Mathematics course builds on many concepts studied at GCSE, as well as introducing new concepts. Students will extend their range of mathematical skills and techniques and use them in a variety of contexts. All of the units within the course are designed to ensure students understand the need to use appropriate techniques within models of real world situations, use mathematics as an effective means of communication and develop skills in problem-solving and organisation.

What will I study?

Students study Pure Mathematics and Applied Mathematics.

The principal components of Pure Mathematics are:

- Algebra and functions
- Coordinate geometry
- Trigonometry
- Calculus
- Sequences and series

The Applied Mathematics units are Statistics and Mechanics Mathematics.

Statistics includes:

- Representation and summary of data
- Probability
- Correlation and regression
- Discrete random variables
- The Normal distribution

Mechanics Mathematics includes:

- Kinematics
- Newton's Laws
- Vectors
- Momentum
- Moments

How is the course assessed?

Examination papers are split into three units of 90 minutes which covers Pure Mathematics in three even parts. Mechanics is included in Paper 2 and Statistics in Paper 3.

A Level Physics (Edexcel) (The King's School)

What does this course involve?

The Physics course at King's is a fantastic opportunity to deepen your understanding of matter, forces and energy. From the ideas behind the Newtons cradle to calculating the age of the universe, you will take part in exciting, interactive lessons where a large proportion of them will be practically based. You will use slow motion tracking software to see how projectiles work, use data loggers to analyse movement, as well using electron deflection tubes to calculate the speed at which the electrons are travelling.

We have a strong team of teachers who are able to use their excellent subject knowledge and experience to deliver engaging and inspiring lessons. Support is not just limited to the classroom as the team are happy to support you both in and out of lessons. Physics is a well-represented A Level in King's with approximately 30-40 students choosing to study it, from a variety of different backgrounds but all with a common interest in finding out about how things work.

Physics is a highly respected A Level. It demonstrates your analytical and mathematical skills which can be applied to real life situations, so studying it opens the door to many different careers from the more traditional routes of Physics, Engineering and Computer Sciences, to Medicine, Mathematics, Finance and Architecture. Even if an eventual career in Physics is not for you the skills you will develop during the course will travel with you to the next stage of your life.

What will I study?

Year 1

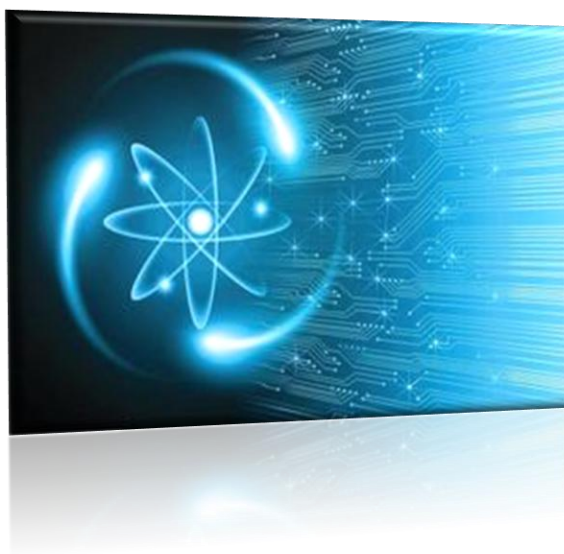
- Mechanics
- Electric Circuits
- Materials
- Waves and the particle nature of light

Year 2

- Further Mechanics
- Electric and magnetic fields
- Nuclear and particle physics
- Thermodynamics
- Space
- Nuclear radiation
- Gravitational fields
- Oscillations

How is the course assessed?

2 papers 1¾ hrs and one 2½ hrs.



A Level Politics

What does this course involve?

The A Level politics qualification allows candidates passionate about current affairs the chance to equip themselves with analytical skills to engage with the global political landscape. It provides a curriculum designed to help candidates to critically evaluate political ideas and procedures. Students will also develop a deep understanding of core political ideas including those of democracy, rights, and government. Critical thinking and analytical skills will prepare candidates for higher education or the workplace.

What will I study?

Paper 1: UK Politics and Core Political Ideas:

- Democracy and participation
- Political parties
- Electoral systems
- Voting behaviour and the media
- Liberalism
- Conservatism
- Socialism

Paper 3: Comparative Politics – Government and Politics of the USA

- The US Constitution and federalism
- US Congress
- US presidency
- US Supreme Court and US civil rights
- US democracy and participation
- Comparative theories

Paper 2: UK Government and Non-core Political Ideas

- The constitution
- Parliament
- Prime minister and executive
- Relations between the branches
- Nationalism

How is the course assessed?

This is a linear A Level with all three equally-weighted exams being taken at the end of Year 13. There is no coursework.

A Level Psychology (AQA)

What does this course involve?

Psychology A Level course an exciting opportunity to study concepts that affect all of us in our daily lives. Each lesson looks at an aspect of human experience and explores research and theories relating to that topic.

Students are encouraged to question ideas and challenge assumptions in the light of new evidence. A whole range of topical subjects are considered including criminal behaviour; social media, mental health and wellbeing; and the causes and treatments for psychological disorders, such as obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD), depression and phobia.

Psychology complements a range of subject choices and vocations. Over the course of the year you will encounter aspects of Biology, History, English Literature, Maths, Art and Drama. The course will help you to develop skills related to a range of disciplines, including debating, essay and report writing, designing experiments and data analysis. The A Level can provide you with skills and knowledge in preparation for careers in the criminal justice system, medicine, social care, finance, research and business.

Psychology is a very popular A Level choice and a significant number of students choose to study it at university. Beyond the traditional psychology degree, there is a growing range of specialism courses on offer including forensic psychology, counselling, child development and sports psychology.

Over the years, students who have studied Psychology at university have progressed on to pursue a wide range of careers. With some further specialised study, it can lead to careers in marketing / advertising, neuroscience, education and criminology. This is not an exclusive list, psychology offers students significant flexibility in how it can be used for career development.

What will I study?

Year 1

Compulsory Units:

- Social influence
- Memory
- Attachment
- Approaches in Psychology
- Psychopathology
- Research Methods

Year 2

Compulsory Units:

- Biopsychology
- Issues and Debates in Psychology

Optional Units

- Opt 1 – Relationships/Gender/Cognition
- Opt 2 – Schizophrenia/Eating Behaviour/Stress
- Opt 3 – Aggression/Forensic Psychology/Addiction

How is the course assessed?

Paper 1: 2 hr exam, 33.3% of A Level, Paper 2: 2 hr exam, 33.3% of A Level.

Paper 3: 2 hr exam, 33.3% of A Level.



A Level Religious Studies (Edexcel)

What does this course involve?

The A level Religious Studies specification offers a wide choice of topics within the national guidelines. The course is relevant to the real world and encourages students to develop an appreciation of religious thought and its contribution to individuals, communities and societies.

Edexcel Religious Studies at A Level encourages candidates to:

- Develop their interest in, and enthusiasm for, a rigorous study of religion and its relation to the wider world
- Treat the subject as an academic discipline by developing knowledge, understanding and skills appropriate to a specialist study of religion
- Adopt an enquiring, critical and reflective approach to the study of religion
- Reflect on and develop their own values, opinions and attitudes in the light of their learning

What will I study?

We offer three out of four areas of study

- Philosophy of Religion
- Religion and Ethics
- New Testament Studies

How is the course assessed?

In year 13 students will sit three 2 hour exams testing course material studied in year 12 also.

"RS is a great A level if you love debating topical issues, allowing you to make informed debates on political actions, Ethical issues, laws and so much more! The course allows you to think deeper about the role of religion in modern society."

Year 12 Student

A Level Sociology (OCR)

What does this course involve?

A level Sociology is an exciting course which gives a detailed insight into the study of our society – how it works, what happens when there is conflict and major issues such as income, social class, the family and education. Students study textbooks, surveys and newspapers and use both primary and secondary data. Students who have not previously studied Sociology can capably study the A level and are welcomed and encouraged to do so.

What will I study?

Year 1

Introducing socialisation, culture.

- What is culture, socialisation and identity?
- Families and relationships
- Family diversity
- Changing roles and relationships within families

Research methods & social inequalities

- What is the relation between theory and methods?
- What are the main stages of the research process?
- What methods are used in sociological research?

Understanding social inequalities

- What are the main patterns and trends in social inequality in relation to Class and Gender?
- How can patterns and trends be explained?
- Functionalism/Marxism/Feminism

Year 2

Understanding social inequalities (Cont.)

- What are the main patterns and trends in social inequality in relation to Ethnicity and Age?
- How can patterns and trends be explained?
- Weberianism/New Right

Globalisation and digital social world

- What is the relationship between globalisation and digital forms of communication?
- What is the impact of digital forms of communication in a global context?

Education

- What is the role of education in society?
- What are the patterns and trends of educational inequalities?
- How can differential educational achievement be explained?
- How has the UK education system changed?

How is the course assessed?

Each component has an exam taken at the end of year 13.

"Sociology opens your eyes to the inner workings of society. It gives you the critical analysis skills needed for many course, I think the lessons can be very interesting"

Year 12 Student

Level 3 Sports Diploma (YDP) in Sport and Physical Activity (Cambridge Technical)

What does this course involve?

This diploma is not just about being able to play sport or deal with elite athletes; employers need people who are able to develop sports skills for teams and individuals, work with clients and participants to improve their fitness and change their lifestyles and monitor progress and improvement over time, adapting practices and approaches to suit the needs of individuals. Therefore, this qualification will develop learners' skills in preparation for employment in sports coaching or personal training either through an apprenticeship or directly into work. These units will give learners skills, knowledge and understanding related to key aspects which underpin how sport and physical activity is delivered and organised, such as anatomy and physiology in relation to physical performance, coaching skills, the structure of sport in the UK and the organisations involved, the target groups that would most benefit from participation in physical activity and why and safe practice in sport and leisure. Learners will also develop transferable skills that employers are looking for such as planning, communication, adaptability and leadership.

The diploma is the equivalent to 2 A Levels.

What will I study?

- Body systems and the effects of physical activity
- Sports coaching and activity leadership
- Sports organisation and development
- Working safely in sport, exercise, health and leisure
- Physical activity for specific groups
- Performance analysis in sport and exercise
- Sports injuries and rehabilitation
- Organisation of sports events
- Health and Fitness Testing
- Sport and Exercise Psychology
- Practical Skills in Sport and Physical Activities

How is the course assessed?

3 Examinations and 8 Coursework units that are moderated internally and externally.



"I study a Level 3 Diploma in Sport and Active Leisure. This is part of a YDP Football Scholarship. I love the course as we get to train and play football throughout the week as well as study many aspects of the Sports industry. It is a great course as I have gained lots of coaching and sports leadership experience. I have planned sports events for primary schools as well as helping out with primary sports days. My knowledge of sports anatomy and physiology has improved and I am currently loving the sports injuries unit. The course is very interesting and YDP provide great work experience in coaching and football. The football is great, the training sessions are intense and have improved my skills as a footballer greatly. I highly recommend the course."

Year 13 Student

Level 3 Extended Certificate in Sport and Physical Activity (Cambridge Technical)

What does this course involve?

This qualification is not just about being able to play sport, it will provide learners with the skills, knowledge and understanding to progress into Higher Education on a sport-related programme such as Sport and Physical Education, Sport Science, Sport Coaching and Development or Sport and Leisure Management. These units will give learners an understanding of sport in the wider contexts of coaching and leadership, anatomy and physiology, the body's short and long-term responses to physical activity and the framework of sport in the UK and the organisations involved. Learners will also develop transferable skills such as planning, communication, adaptability and leadership. The course is the equivalent to 1 A Level.

What will I study?

- Body systems and the effects of physical activity
- Sports coaching and activity leadership
- Sports organisation and development
- Sports injuries and rehabilitation
- Organisation of sports events

How is the course assessed?

2 Examinations and 3 Coursework units that are moderated internally and externally.

Where next?

The course aims to make learners more employable. You may choose to go directly into employment within the Sports Development, Coaching and Fitness Industry or onto study a variety of Higher Education courses at university.

"I chose this course as I have a passion for sport. I like that the course covers lots of different areas of sport, we have looked at Anatomy and Physiology of the body, sports coaching, sports physiotherapy and rehabilitation as well as sports development. This gives me a broad knowledge of sport and will help me get a job in sport and further qualifications in sport. The course is very interesting and enjoyable."

Year 13 Student

Post-16 Admissions

Admissions Criteria

We want Year 12 students at St John Fisher to follow a route to success that relates to their interests and abilities. For this reason all courses in Year 12 have entry requirements. These requirements are based on our understanding of the demands of the courses and of the qualities which students need to meet these demands successfully.

Students wanting to study alternative courses are signposted to local FE colleges and other institutions.

Criteria for access to Level 3 courses

Requirements for Level 3 courses are 5 GCSEs at grade 5 or better, usually including Maths and English and representing at least 4 different courses taken in one examination period. Please note that an individual subject cannot count for more than 2 GCSEs.

For students embarking on an A level which requires essay-writing, English language GCSE Level 5 or equivalent is essential. Maths GCSE Level 5 or equivalent is of similar status for those embarking on scientific or technological studies

In order to study specific subjects at Level 3 we strongly recommend that students should have achieved at least a Level 6 at GCSE in subjects which they wish to pursue at A level. Many courses have additional specific requirements; see our 'Entry Requirements' in the prospectus for full details.

Requirements for Level 3 vocational courses, for example Cambridge Technical qualifications are:

Health and Social Care, IT and Business: a minimum of four 4 grades, including a grade 4 in English Language.

Sports Scholarship: a minimum of four 3 grades, including a grade 4 in English Language.

The school reserves the right to refuse a place to students who may have achieved the entry requirements but are not deemed suitable for Level 3 study.

If a course is oversubscribed at the application deadline, students will be allocated to the course according to their previous qualifications in that subject, with priority given to those who have the higher ability. If a further distinction between applicants is required, priority will be given to the student who has the fewest alternative courses available to them.

Programmes available

The majority of Level 3 students will study three Level 3 courses (3 A levels or a combination of vocational courses and A Levels) plus core RE, PSHE and an enrichment course. All students must continue studying GCSE English Language and/or Mathematics if a grade 4 has not been achieved.

Guidelines for Applicants

The total number of places available in the Sixth Form is 150. Priority is given to applications from current students at St John Fisher who wish to continue their studies here. Of these, priority will be given to applications received by the published deadline, and each applicant's behaviour, attendance, punctuality and reference (external students) will be considered carefully before we make an offer of a place.

If the school has more applications than places available parents may elect to place their child's name on a waiting list. Students will be placed on the waiting list in strict order according to the oversubscription criteria on the Admissions Policy. If a place becomes available at the school, places will be allocated according to this criterion.

The waiting list will be held from the allocation of places date until the end of December in Year 12. Applicants must inform the school on GCSE results day that they wish to remain on the waiting list by telephoning the school.

We invite all (external) students who meet our entry criteria into the school to discuss our expectations, answer any questions students may have and clarify options. Parents are also welcome to attend with students. In addition, students and parents are shown around the school by our own students. We feel this is important as it gives them the chance to see the school during a normal day and to speak to our students about their experiences at St John Fisher, thus giving them a true reflection of life at the school. These visits can take place during the autumn and spring terms.

Successful applicants will be contacted within four weeks of their interview with an offer conditional on their GCSE results meeting their chosen courses requirements, there being spaces in the Sixth Form and on their chosen courses.

Applicants are expected to reply to their offer by 1st June and may only accept one offer.

Internal and External applicants are expected to submit their GCSE grades on results day and attend the school to confirm their place. Failure to do so may result in their place being reallocated.

All places offered to external applicants are provisional, depending on grades achieved and also on there being places available in the sixth form and on the chosen courses following the admission of current students transferring from year 11.

How to Apply

Current SJF students should complete the school's application form for Sixth Form Admission on page 35 of this booklet.

External applicants should complete the school's application form for Sixth Form Admission on page 37 of this booklet.

All application forms should be returned by Friday 19 December 2025 to:

Internal Students:

Student Services

External Students:

Sixth Form Admissions

St John Fisher Catholic High School, Park Lane,
Peterborough, PE1 5JN

Timeline

Date	Event
November/December 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Careers interview with students – all Year 11 students will be interviewed regardless of their intended destination
19 December 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Internal students intending to apply to Sixth Form at St John Fisher must complete the internal application formExternal students must complete the external application form
January/February 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Sixth Form Interviews for internal applicants
March 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Sixth Form interviews for external applicantsOffer letters will be issued (March, April and May)
May/June 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Students will complete external examinations in all GCSE subjects
June 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Sixth Form Induction day (date to be confirmed)
August 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none">GCSE results will be released to students on the morning of GCSE Results DayStaff will be available to advise students who require further support with the Post-16 choices during the morning of GCSE results dayAll students should confirm their place at SJF Sixth Form on Results day

Application for Sixth Form Admission – September 2026

(For completion by **SJF** students only)

Name		Tutor Group	
Address (inc Postcode)		Date of Birth	
		Telephone Number	
Email		Mobile Number	

Please select a total of **4 subjects** from any of the subjects listed below in priority order (1-4). If a subject shows as a double, then only choose 3 subjects.

Option A	✓	Option B	✓	Option C	✓	Option D	✓
Psychology (Kings)		English Literature		Sociology		RS	
Physics (Kings)		English Language and Literature		Maths		Biology	
Sports Scholarship (single and double)		Chemistry		Sports Scholarship (double)		Business	
IT (Computing App Development)		IT (Data Analysis)		History		Health and Social Care	
Health and Social Care (Early Childhood)				Environmental Science		Art	
Politics							

Note: Only one IT course can be selected

Other courses not listed above: _____

Reasons for applying for these courses. Include future career interests.
Other information you wish to include (hobbies, interests and previous achievements).

Signed by student: _____ Date: _____

Statement by parent/carer: This application has my consent:

Signed: _____ Name: _____

Relationship to child: _____ Date: _____

Please Return to: Student Services by no later than Friday 19 December 2025.

FAO: RV

Application for Sixth Form Admission – September 2026

(For completion by External applicants only)

Please complete all the information below and provide copies of the following documents:

- Baptismal Certificate/evidence from Religious Leader
- Proof of home address (rent book or utility bill)
- Passport or Birth Certificate
- Any reports you may have from your previous school

Family Name: _____ Male/Female (delete as applicable)

First Name(s): _____ Date of Birth: _____

Home Language: _____ Current Year Group: _____

Date of Entry to UK (if applicable): _____ Email address: _____

Home Address: _____

Postcode: _____ Home Telephone Number: _____

Full name of Mother/Guardian: _____

Day time telephone number: _____

Full name of Father/Guardian: _____

Day time telephone number: _____

Religion: _____ Place of Baptism: _____

(a copy of Baptismal Certificate is required as proof of baptism)

Name and address of Church of other Place of Worship: _____

Name of Priest, Minister of Religion or Leader of Faith Community to whom the family is known: _____

Present/Previous school: _____

Address: _____

Date of Admission: _____ Date of Leaving: _____

Name(s) of sibling(s) at St John Fisher Catholic High School

_____ DOB: _____ Year Group: _____

_____ DOB: _____ Year Group: _____

Reason for choosing St John Fisher Catholic High School: _____

Compassionate factors you would like the Governors to take into account: _____

Any other information you wish to be considered: _____

Please select a total of **4 subjects** from any of the subjects listed below in priority order (1-4). If a subject shows as a double, then only choose 3 subjects.

Option A	✓	Option B	✓	Option C	✓	Option D	✓
Psychology (Kings)		English Literature		Sociology		RS	
Physics (Kings)		English Language and Literature		Maths		Biology	
Sports Scholarship (single and double)		Chemistry		Sports Scholarship (double)		Business	
IT (Computing App Development)		IT (Data Analysis)		History		Health and Social Care	
Health and Social Care (Early Childhood)		Economics		Environmental Science		Art	
Politics							

Note: Only one IT course can be selected

Other courses not listed above: _____

Reasons for applying for these courses. Include future career interests.
Other information you wish to include (hobbies, interests and previous achievements).

Declaration (to be completed by the parent):

To the best of my knowledge the information given in this application is correct. I agree to notify the Governors of St John Fisher Catholic High School immediately of any change of address or other circumstance.

Signed: _____ Name: _____

Relationship to child: _____ Date: _____

Please return to: Sixth Form Admissions, St John Fisher Catholic High School, Park Lane, Peterborough, PE1 5JN by no later than Friday 19 December 2025.

