



St John Fisher
Catholic High School

SIXTH FORM

PROSPECTUS
2027 - 2029



Love



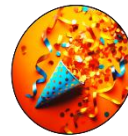
Faith



Growth



Unity



Celebration



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Our Vision

St John Fisher Catholic High 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 mission statement which was said by Jesus: '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

St John Fisher Catholic High School Sixth Form strives to offer tailored pathways for all students, in a small, supportive environment where students are nurtured and encouraged to develop their whole selves in preparation for their future.

As a result, 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.

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, whether that be employment, an apprenticeship or University.

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

Mrs N 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 and Football.

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
- Massive Open Online Courses
- Participation in form and house assemblies
- Student Leadership Team

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, trips and visits, bowling, mini golf 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. Please see the table below for Applied Science and Psychology.

Applied Science (AAQ)	Grade 4 in English Language and Maths and: Combined Science grade 5:4 or Triple Science grade 5 in two of either Biology, Chemistry or Physics
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
IT (Cambridge Technical)	Grade 4 or above in English Language and Grade 4 or above in 3 other GCSEs
Applied Psychology (AAQ)	Grade 4 in English Language and Maths and Grade 4 or above in 2 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 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 Politics	Grade 6 or above in GCSE History or Grade 6 in GCSE 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
A Level Spanish (AQA)	Grade 6 or above in GCSE Spanish

Please read through the Post 16 Admissions on page 30 of this Prospectus for details of general admission to the Sixth Form.





A Level Art, Craft and Design

Edexcel

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 essay between 1,000 and 3,000 words based on your selected theme and artists whose work has influenced the development of your portfolio.

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?

The personal portfolio is 60 % (coursework) 40% Externally set assignment. Throughout Year 12 and the Autumn Term of Year 13, you will work on producing a personal portfolio consisting of a project title set by the department and then you will develop your own project based on a theme of your choice.

Throughout the course emphasis is placed upon the visual elements, exploring a variety of media, materials and techniques. You will record your journey through a sketchbook and development pieces inspired by the work of others, whose work you have been influenced by. Each project will culminate in a final personal response. You follow 4 assessments objectives that need to be covered in each project.

How is the course assessed?

All coursework is internally assessed by subject tutors and then externally verified by an exam board moderator. Coursework is assessed throughout Year 12 and the Autumn term of Year 13. The externally set assignment is launched in the February of Year 13, with a theme set by the exam board. The exam is sat at the start of May and you have 15 hours to produce a personal response based on your sketchbook work on the set theme.



Course entry requirements

An extensive and high quality portfolio of work or Grade 5 or above in GCSE Art or Textiles.





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.



Course entry requirements

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

"It's been a pleasure to study Biology at St John Fisher. My Biology teachers are always willing to help and encourage us to keep working hard and developing our understanding. One of the most enjoyable topics in Year 12 was Gas Exchange, particularly learning about insects and the unique structures that allow them to exchange gases." Year 12 Student

"One of the most enjoyable topics in Year 12 was Gas Exchange, particularly learning about insects and the unique structures that allow them to exchange gases." Year 12 Student





Business

Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate

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.



Course entry requirements

Grade 4 or above in English Language and Grade 4 or above in 3 other GCSEs

"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.



Course entry requirements

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

"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	
Component 01 will assess: • Introduction to microeconomics • The role of markets • Business objectives • Market structures • The labour market	Microeconomics (01) 80 marks 2 hour written paper	33.33% of total A level
Component 02 will assess: • Aggregate demand and aggregate supply • Economic policy objectives • Implementing policy • The global context • The financial sector	Macroeconomics (02) 80 marks 2 hour written paper	33.33% of total A level
In component 03 students will draw together their knowledge and skills to answer questions from across all content areas.	Themes in economics* (03) 80 marks 2 hour written paper	33.33% of total A level

* Indicates synoptic assessment

Course entry requirements

Grade 6 or above in Maths and English Language





A Level English Literature and Language Combined OCR

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)



Course entry requirements

Grade 5 or above in GCSE English





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.

How is the course assessed?

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

Course entry requirements

Grade 6 or above in GCSE English Literature





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.

Course entry requirements

Grade 6 or above in GCSE Geography





Health and Social Care

Level 3 Cambridge Technical Diploma

What does this course involve?

The Level 3 Diploma in Health and Social Care has been developed for learners aged 16+, who want to develop and apply their skills, knowledge and understanding in health, social care and child care. The Level 3 Diploma in Health and Social Care is an Applied General qualification which is the same size as two GCE A levels.

This qualification will provide them with the skills, knowledge and understanding that will allow them to progress onto Higher Education on a health and social care-related programme such as Health and Social Care, Nursing, Social Work or Early Childhood Studies.

What will I study?

Learners will take 12 or 13 units, made up of mandatory and optional units.

Everybody will study the following mandatory units:

- Building positive relationships in health and social care
- Equality, diversity and rights in health and social care
- Health, safety and security in health and social care
- Anatomy and physiology for health and social care
- Infection control
- Personalisation and a person-centred approach to care
- Safeguarding

These units will give learners an understanding of health and social care within the wider contexts of different environments and settings where care takes place, the importance of effective communication in health and social care, the importance of legislation in health and social care and the principles behind the person-centred approach to care and how this is applied in the workplace. Learners will also develop transferable skills such as communication skills as well as research, planning and organisation.

How is the course assessed?

A balance of external exams and coursework





Health and Social Care

Level 3 Cambridge Technical Extended Diploma

What does this course involve?

The Level 3 Extended Diploma in Health and Social Care has been developed for learners aged 16+, who want to develop and apply their skills, knowledge and understanding in health, social care and child care. The Level 3 Extended Diploma in Health and Social Care is an Applied General qualification which is the same size as three GCE A levels. The qualification is designed to fill a complete two-year study programme.

This qualification will provide learners with the skills, knowledge and understanding that will allow them to progress onto a Health and Social Care-related Apprenticeship or Higher Education on a health and social care-related programme such as Health and Social Care, Nursing, Social Work or Early Childhood Studies.

What will I study?

Learners will take 17 or 18 units, made up of mandatory and optional units.

Everybody will study the following Mandatory units in addition to those for the Diploma and 3 other optional units:

- Promote positive behaviour
- Research methods in health, social care and childcare

These units will give learners an understanding of health and social care within the wider contexts of different environments and settings where care takes place, the different individuals that learners might meet and care for or support, the importance of effective communication in health and social care, the importance of legislation in health and social care and the principles behind the person-centred approach to care and how this is applied in the workplace. Learners will also develop transferable skills such as communication skills, research and investigative skills, planning and organisation.

How is the course assessed?

A balance of external exams and coursework.





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.



Course entry requirements

Grade 6 or above in GCSE History or Level 6 in GCSE English





IT

Level 3 Cambridge Technical Diploma

What does this course involve?

This is an exciting course looking at a variety of topics and learning different skills. From making an App to creating websites and a game. The course is written to help lead to a variety of Computer Science and IT courses and jobs in the future. The course was developed with universities and companies in the IT and Computing industries. This is a double award course.

What will I study?

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

Three compulsory units:

- Fundamentals of IT (exam)
- Global information (exam)
- Application Design

Eight optional units that we have chosen:

- Product Development
- Social Media and Digital Marketing
- Internet of Everything
- Cyber Security (exam)
- Mobile Technology
- Project Management
- Web Design and Prototyping
- Games Design and Prototyping



How is the course assessed?

The course is assessed with three examinations and eight NEA pieces of work set and marked by your teacher and then moderated by an external moderator.

Course entry requirements

Grade 4 or above in English Language and Grade 4 or above in 3 other GCSEs

"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 university 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." SJF Alumni and 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

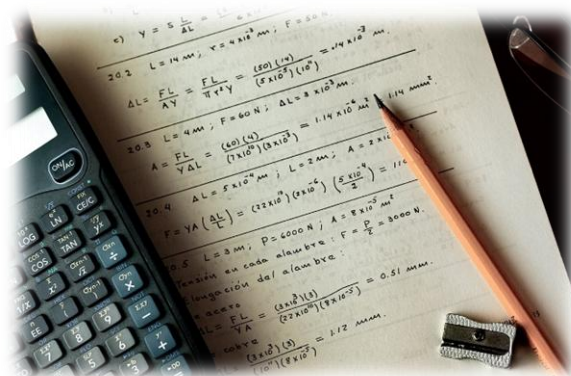
The Applied Mathematics units are Statistics and Mechanics Mathematics.

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



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.

Course entry requirements

Grade 6 or above in GCSE Maths





A Level Politics

Edexcel

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 2: UK Government and Non-core Political Ideas:

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

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



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.

Course entry requirements

Grade 6 or above in GCSE History or Grade 6 in GCSE English Language





Applied Psychology

New for 2027

What will I study?

There are four units in the course:

Unit 1: Psychological Approaches and Applications

You will study underlying concepts of psychology and apply your knowledge to explain behaviours including gender identity, consumer behaviour and aggression.

Unit 2: Conducting Psychological Research

You will learn how psychologists collect and analyse their data. You will also be given the opportunity to plan and conduct your own research project.

Unit 3: Health Psychology

In this unit you will explore behaviours and lifestyle choices which affect health and wellbeing. Topics covered within this unit include stress and addiction including alcohol misuse, smoking, shopping and gambling.

Unit 4: Introduction to Psychopathology

Psychopathology is the study of mental health. In this unit you will learn how mental health disorders are identified and treated. You will study a variety of mental health disorders including depression, phobias and schizophrenia.

How is the course assessed?

This course is assessed through both coursework and exam based units.

Course entry requirements

Grade 4 in English Language and Maths and Grade 4 or above
in 2 other GCSEs





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.



Course entry requirements

Grade 6 or above in GCSE RE and Level 5 in GCSE English

"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





Applied Science

New for 2027

What will I study?

Over the 2 years students must complete 5 units:

Unit 1: Principles and Applications of Biology (External)

Unit 2: Principles and Applications of Chemistry (External)

Unit 3: Principles and Applications of Physics (External)

Unit 4: Practical Scientific Procedures and Techniques (Internal)

Unit 5: Contemporary issues in Science (Internal)

How is the course assessed?

This course is assessed through both coursework and exam based units.

Course entry requirements

Grade 4 in English Language and Maths and: Combined Science grade 5:4 or Triple Science grade 5 in two of either Biology, Chemistry or Physics





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.

Course entry requirements

Grade 6 or above in GCSE English.





A Level Spanish

AQA

What does this course involve?

This exciting new course offers the opportunity to study a film, literature and history alongside the culture, politics and social aspects of the Spanish Speaking world. Students can expect the majority of the course to be delivered in Spanish and must be prepared to communicate in the language with the teacher and the rest of the class.

What will I study?

The first part of the course is dedicated to bridging the gap between study at GCSE and A Level. There is a thorough revision of vocabulary and grammar taught at GCSE and new grammar is introduced.

The course will cover:

- Aspects of Spanish-speaking society: current trends such as the changing nature of the family unit and the cyber-society
- Artistic culture in the Spanish-speaking world, looking at contemporary hispanophone music and the Spanish cinema industry
- The study of a Spanish author
- The study of a Spanish film
- Aspects of Spanish-speaking society: current issues such as the positive features of a diverse society and law and order
- Aspects of political life in the Spanish-speaking world such as democracy and voting, popular movements and dictatorships

How is the course assessed?

The course is assessed with a Listening, Reading and Writing Paper on the topics studied, an additional paper on the literary or cinematographic work studied and a Speaking Test on the topics studied. There is no coursework with this course.



Course entry requirements

A grade 6 in GCSE Spanish

"Learning a language is something meaningful that will allow me to travel and be immersed with different cultures. It has developed my understanding of the grammar of my own language and I find myself fascinated by the history and culture of Spain and other Spanish speaking countries." Year 12 Student





Sport: Diploma in Sport and Physical Activity (YDP) Level 3 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

Course entry requirements

Grade 4 or above in English Language and Grade 3 or above in 3 other GCSEs



WE BELIEVE IN YOUTH!





Sport: Extended Certificate in Sport and Physical Activity

Level 3 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.

Course entry requirements

Grade 4 or above in English Language and Grade 3 or above in 3 other GCSEs





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:

- Applied Science: Grade 4 in English Language and Maths and: Combined Science grade 5:4 or Triple Science grade 5 in two of either Biology, Chemistry or Physics
- Applied Psychology: Grade 4 in English Language and Maths and Grade 4 or above in 2 other GCSEs
- 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 internal application form for Sixth Form Admission.

External applicants should complete the school's external application form for Sixth Form.

All application forms should be returned by **Friday 18 December 2026** to:

Internal Students: Student Services or Careers Office	External Students: Sixth Form Admissions St John Fisher Catholic High School, Park Lane, Peterborough, PE1 5JN
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Timeline

Date	Event
November/December 2026	Careers interview with students – all SJF Year 11 students will be interviewed regardless of their intended destination
18 December 2026	- Internal students intending to apply to Sixth Form at St John Fisher must complete the internal application form - External students must complete the external application form
January/February 2027	Sixth Form Interviews for internal applicants
March 2027	- Sixth Form interviews for external applicants - Offer letters will be issued (March, April and May)
May/June 2027	Students will complete external examinations in all GCSE subjects
June 2027	Sixth Form Induction day (date to be confirmed)
August 2027	- GCSE results will be released to students on the morning of GCSE Results Day - Staff will be available to advise students who require further support with the Post-16 choices during the morning of GCSE results day All students should confirm their place at SJF Sixth Form on Results day





'I have come that they may have life and have it to the full' John 10:10



St John Fisher Catholic High School

Park Lane, Peterborough, PE1 5JN

01733 343646

enquiries@stjohnfisherschool.org.uk

www.stjohnfisherschool.org.uk

