



**GEORGE  
SPENCER  
ACADEMY**

# 6 FORM

## GROW SUCCEED ASPIRE

 @gsasixthform

[www.george-spencer.notts.sch.uk](http://www.george-spencer.notts.sch.uk)

 [GSA\\_sixthform@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk](mailto:GSA_sixthform@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk)



**ETHOS OF EXCELLENCE**

# List of Subjects

## Business Computing and Economics

Computer Science

Cambridge Technical Introductory Diploma in IT (single A level equivalent)/Cambridge Technical Extended Diploma in IT (triple A level equivalent)

Economics

Business Studies

Cambridge Technical Level 3 in Business (Extended Certificate 1 A-Level)

## Design and Technology

Textile, Art & Design

Design and Technology  
Product Design

## English

English Language

English Literature

## Mathematics

Mathematics

Further Mathematics

Core Mathematics

## Media and Creative Arts

Art and Design

Music

Media Studies

Drama (and Theatre)

## Modern Foreign Languages

French

Spanish

## Science

Chemistry

Physics

Biology

Level 3 Extended Certificate in Applied Science (single A level equivalent)

## Social Sciences

Psychology

Sociology

History

Geography

Philosophy and Ethics

## Sport and Health Studies

A level Physical Education

Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Sport and Exercise Science (equivalent to 2 A-Levels)

Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Sport and Exercise Science (equivalent to 3 A-Levels)

BTEC National Extended Diploma in Health and Social Care (triple A level equivalent)

BTEC National Extended Diploma in Children's Play, Learning and Development (triple A level equivalent)

## The EPQ

Extended Project Qualification

# Message from the Principal

It is a privilege to welcome you to George Spencer Academy Sixth Form. The students we work with each day create the community that we are extremely proud of. Our ethos centres on excellence; from the challenge and intellectual rigour to the support we provide for each individual.

Our Sixth Form is focused on a culture of learning, the motivation of study and a real sense of cherishing each other. We offer outstanding academic education for all our students in small class sizes with teachers who build strong relationships with each student and will strive to get the very best out of everyone.

George Spencer Academy Sixth Form is an inspirational place with a true sense of belonging to something special. We very much hope that you will choose to join us in September.

**Helen Corbett, Principal**

## Welcome

George Spencer Academy is well known for having excellent academic standards. We are committed to providing innovative learning and teaching to prepare you for life and future careers.

The Sixth Form is very popular and this year we have record numbers who have selected George Spencer Academy as the place to learn successfully.

Students come first at George Spencer Academy. We provide an extensive range of courses for you to select your own learning package plus many activities and opportunities to make up your unique Sixth Form experience.

Our flexible learning opportunities allow a broad range of subject combinations for optimum choice. We also continue to develop transferable skills such as communication, teamwork, and problem solving, which are essential for lifelong learning and employment.

We pride ourselves in having a focussed work ethic leading to successful outcomes. As a Sixth Form student you are expected to take responsibility for the organisation of your time and work. You will be allocated a Personal Learning Manager who will monitor your progress and support your learning throughout your time in the Sixth Form.

At George Spencer Academy there is a supportive and caring atmosphere. Staff and students are very approachable, so if you are coming from another school be assured of a very warm welcome.

**Karen Fawcett, Director Post-16**

## Standard Entry Requirements

Students are required to select 3 A level linear or equivalent courses, they may also choose to study Core Mathematics or the Extended Project Qualification, which are both one year courses. We are prepared to offer students the opportunity to study 4 A Levels following a discussion with the Director of Post-16.

All students will sit external examinations at the end of Year 13. There will be no AS examinations at the end of Year 12, however there will be continual assessments throughout the year and an end of Year 12 internal examination.

A minimum of 5 courses at GCSE grades 9-4 including English and Mathematics. However many subjects require a grade 5 in the subject area, or related subject.

If you do not meet the entry requirements above then please speak to us.

*\*Meeting the requirements of any course does not automatically guarantee that applicants will be offered places on their preferred choices, this depends on the viability of each course.*

**Apply online at:**

[www.george-spencer.notts.sch.uk](http://www.george-spencer.notts.sch.uk)

## **George Spencer Sixth Form Higher Education & Careers Guidance**

---

### **Supporting Progression Post-18**

A large majority of our students leave George Spencer Academy Sixth Form and continue their studies at university. To support our students we offer a full programme of events and guidance through our pastoral system. Through our careers information and guidance package we strive to open doors for our students giving them the best opportunities we can. All Sixth Form students have access to UNIFROG, a package which enables them search a wide range of both university courses and available apprenticeships.

### **Going to University**

We have forged partnerships with local Higher Education institutions such as Nottingham University, Nottingham Trent University and Loughborough University. They all support our students by delivering presentations and offering the opportunity to attend 'Summer Schools' and 'Masterclasses'. Students further have the opportunity to attend a "taster day" at one of our local universities in the summer term. This provides students with an insight into life at university with workshops including the UCAS process, writing personal statements, and subject lectures. Throughout their time in the Sixth Form their Learning Managers will discuss Post-18 options and will support the students with their UCAS applications and more importantly their Personal Statements. They will also write the references, which is a key part of the student's application.

George Spencer Academy Sixth Form has built a strong academic reputation and each year a growing number of students are encouraged to consider Oxbridge as a viable option for their future further education. There is a strong support system throughout the planning and application process. Oxbridge Coordinators oversee the whole process and are on hand to answer queries from both students and parents. Early in Year 12 students who demonstrate Oxbridge potential are encouraged to join one of the official National Conferences where students meet lecturers and current undergraduates from Oxford and Cambridge and are given the chance to participate in a 'taster lecture'. This year we are also involved in HE+ a support network of schools working alongside Peterhouse Cambridge to provide additional opportunities for like-minded students to explore their subject beyond the curriculum.

### **Alternative Pathways Post-18**

Throughout the year we have visits and career talks with large businesses. We also offer assistance in applications to fully-sponsored degree opportunities with Higher Education Institutions and businesses that include employment with global companies such as Experian, Barclays as well as high level Apprenticeship schemes with companies such as Boots in the areas of HR, Finance, IT, Logistics, Retail etc. Some of our students also choose to go into full-time employment with continued higher level training such as Foundation degrees and are supported through this process. Last we also recommend E-mentoring opportunities with industry tailored to suit the student's future career interests.

# Business Computing and Economics

## Computer Science

 [aradford@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk](mailto:aradford@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk)

### Subject Specific Entry Criteria

- Grade 5 in Computing (if studied)
- Grade 5 in GCSE Mathematics

### Exam Board:

AQA

### Units Studied:

- Unit 1 - Programming (40%)
- Unit 2 - Computer Science theory (40%)
- Unit 3 - Coursework (20%)

### Course Information:

The ever changing world of Computer Science is a subject we are proud to teach at George Spencer. Closely linked with preparing you for a degree in a related subject, the course is a mix of programming (roughly 60%) and theory (roughly 40%). Over two years you will develop an advanced understanding of Python, Binary, Machine architecture, Computational thinking, Hardware, Software and Networking. The course is ideally suited to someone who loves problem solving, is willing to dedicate time outside of lesson to develop their craft, and has a love for Mathematics.

### Possible Career Paths:

The careers in Computer Science are endless. From robotics to Artificial Intelligence. Your career in the industry has probably not even been invented yet!

# Business Computing and Economics

## Cambridge Technical Introductory Diploma in IT (single A level equivalent)/ Cambridge Technical Extended Diploma in IT (triple A level equivalent)

[aradford@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk](mailto:aradford@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk)

### Subject Specific Entry Criteria

- Standard entry criteria for the Sixth Form

### Exam Board:

OCR



### Units Studied:

Dependent on study path (single or triple A-Level)

### Course Information:

ICT is a modern, relevant subject that is ideally suited to someone who wishes to pursue an apprenticeship or full time job in the industry. The course can be selected as either a single or triple A level equivalent option. Those studying the single A level will gain a broad understanding of ICT across a range of units; some practical (e.g. web design) and some theory based (e.g. cyber security). Those studying the triple A level equivalent option will gain a deep understanding in a wide range of ICT topics; with many being highly practical such as product development or software engineering. In both courses, there is a weighting more towards coursework than exams, and this structure benefits those students who gain a satisfaction from each lesson building towards the final qualification.

### Possible Career Paths:

IT manager, network manager, database administrator, help desk support, systems developer, web design.

# Business Computing and Economics

## Economics

✉ [scrawford@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk](mailto:scrawford@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk)

### Subject Specific Entry Criteria

- Grade 6 in English and Maths

### Exam Board:

AQA

### Units Studied:

Microeconomics, Macroeconomics

### Course Information:

The course will explore how firms, individuals and governments allocate resources to ensure markets run efficiently. For example, understanding fluctuations in the price of oil and how this impacts upon firms and consumers. The course also looks at fiscal, monetary and supply-side policies, for example, how changes in the Bank of England's interest rate can impact the Government's macroeconomic objectives. More information about the course can be found here:

➔ <http://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/170839-specification-accredited-a-level-gce-economics-h460.pdf>

### Possible Career Paths:

Economist, Accountancy, Journalism, Business Management Consultancy, Business Analyst.

# Business Computing and Economics

## Business Studies

 [awaite@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk](mailto:awaite@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk)

### Subject Specific Entry Criteria

- Grade 6 if studied at GCSE
- Grade 6 in English & Maths

### Exam Board:

AQA

### Units Studied:

Managers, Leadership and Decision making, Improving Marketing Performance, Improving Operations Performance, Improving Financial Performance, Improving Human Resource Performance.

### Course Information:

Business Studies will provide excellent preparation for both the world of work and a variety of university undergraduate courses. The course will evaluate the relationship between external market forces and internal decision making as well as analysing the success of a business from the perspective of different stakeholder demands. It is delivered by an exciting, innovate business team providing an excellent quality of learning.

### Possible Career Paths:

There is a large variety of specific business or joint honours undergraduate degree courses that further develop your business knowledge. A large number of students have been placed in business related apprenticeships including marketing, finance and project management. We have even had one past student establish and successfully run her own business.

### Extra Curricular:

You will get the opportunity to visit a number of businesses to apply your knowledge and understanding to real life situations and decisions.

# Business Computing and Economics

## Cambridge Technical Level 3 in Business (Extended Certificate 1 A-Level)

[awaite@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk](mailto:awaite@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk)

### Extra Curricular:

There are opportunities to visit trading businesses in order to apply the theory taught to real life scenarios.

### Subject Specific Entry Criteria

- Standard entry criteria for the Sixth Form

### Exam Board:

OCR

### Units Studied:

- Unit 1 The Business Environment
- Unit 2 Writing in Business
- Unit 3 Business Decisions

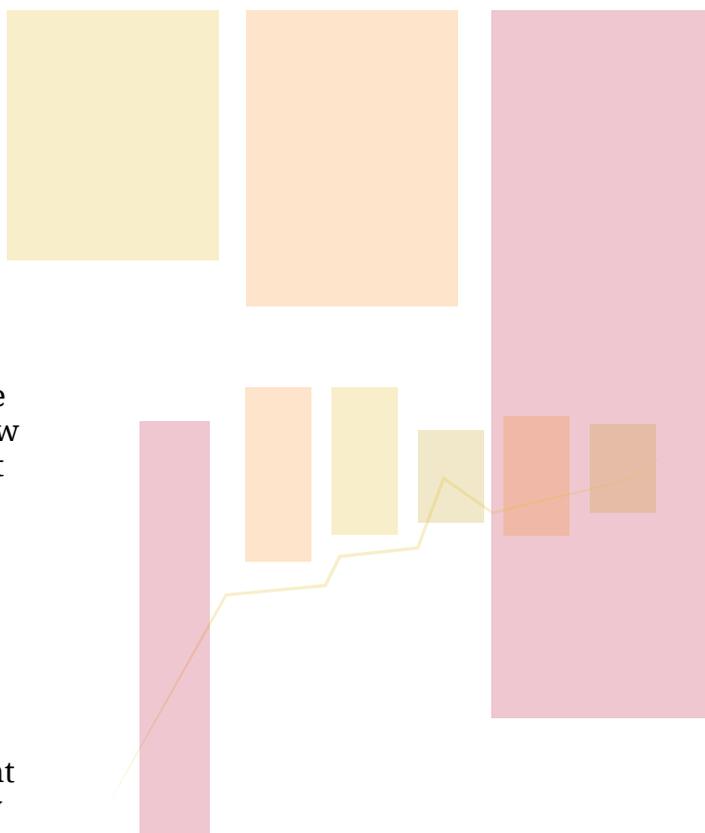
There may also be an opportunity to study the Diploma in Business which then includes a few optional modules that beautifully compliment the mandatory units.

### Course Information:

This course will be ideally suited to hard working, knowledgeable students who do not necessarily perform well in examinations. Some of this course is internally assessed via investigative course work allowing the student to develop a deeper understanding of the way businesses operate. Students will learn the fundamentals of business decision making, making it the ideal choice to progress into apprenticeships after sixth form.

### Possible Career Paths:

The Cambridge Technical is popular for those students who wish to apply for a business related apprenticeship. Most universities accept the Cambridge Technical qualification, however check carefully in terms of the number of units covered.



# Design and Technology

## Textile, Art & Design

[✉ rjackson@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk](mailto:rjackson@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk)

[@gsadestech](https://twitter.com/gsadestech)

### Subject Specific Entry Criteria

- Grade 5 in GCSE Design and Technology or Art and Design (other considerations can be made)

### Exam Board:

AQA

### Units Studied:

- Project 1: Personal investigation
- Project 2: Examination brief

### Course Information:

Textiles, Art and Design students will be able to express their creativity by being introduced to many new textiles and art techniques. They will use the skills learnt to produce two components of work over the two-year course. Students produce a notebook of ideas, samples, developments and make a final piece. Outside of taught sessions, they have access to the textiles studios at all times and are able to use the excellent facilities to experiment with fibres, fabrics and yarns.

### Possible Career Paths:

Textiles students could continue on to do a foundation course or go straight onto a degree in a design or art related subject. Alternatively, students could go onto an apprenticeship. STEM careers offer great prospects for the future.

### Extra Curricular:

Dedicated A level area for students to use at all times of the week and after school. Trips to the V&A and local universities. Students are encouraged to work within the faculty outside of their timetabled lessons.



# Design and Technology

## Design and Technology Product Design

[stapp@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk](mailto:stapp@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk)

[@gsadesigntech](https://twitter.com/gsadesigntech)

### Subject Specific Entry Criteria

- Grade 5 in GCSE Design and Technology (other considerations can be made)

### Exam Board:

AQA (7552)

### Units Studied:

- Technical principles (30% of A-level)
- Designing and making principles (20% of A-level)
- Non-exam assessment - NEA (50% of A-level)

### Course Information:

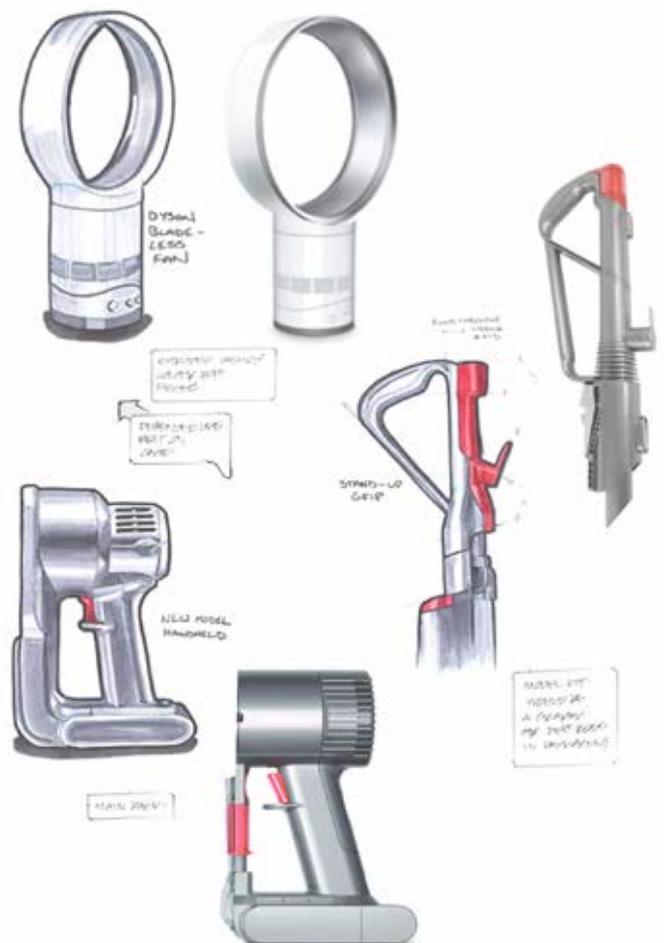
This creative and thought-provoking qualification gives students the practical skills, theoretical knowledge and confidence to succeed in a number of careers. Especially those in the creative industries. They will investigate historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic influences on Design and Technology, whilst enjoying opportunities to put their learning into practice by producing prototypes of their choice. Students will gain a real understanding of what it means to be a designer, alongside the knowledge and skills sought by higher education and employers.

### Possible Career Paths:

Product Design students could continue on to do a foundation course or go straight onto a degree in a design related subject. Alternatively, students could go onto an apprenticeship. STEM careers offer great prospects for the future.

### Extra Curricular:

Trips to the V&A Museum, local Universities and manufacturing companies. Students are encouraged to work within the faculty outside of their timetabled lessons.



# English

## English Language

 [sferguson@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk](mailto:sferguson@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk)

 @GSAENGLANG

### Subject Specific Entry Criteria

- Grade 5 in GCSE English Language
- Grade 5 in GCSE English Literature

### Exam Board:

AQA

### Units Studied:

- Language and the Individual Language Varieties
- NEA Language in Action

### Course Information:

This is the study of the diverse ways in which the English language is structured and used. You will look at aspects of social change, language and gender, language and occupation, accent and dialect, journalism, slang and taboo language to name but a few!

### Possible Pathways:

English qualifications are suitable for entry to a broad range of career path including: journalism and media careers; the law; teaching and business. A qualification is a testament to your communication skills and therefore viewed favourably by employers.



# English

## English Literature

[sferguson@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk](mailto:sferguson@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk)

[@gsasixthformlit](https://twitter.com/gsasixthformlit)

### Subject Specific Entry Criteria

- Grade 5 in GCSE English Language
- Grade 5 in GCSE English Literature

### Exam Board:

OCR

### Units Studied:

Shakespeare, Drama and Poetry Comparative and Contextual Study - The Gothic NEA: Close reading of poetry and comparative essay.

### Course Information:

English Literature is the study of poetry, prose and drama. If you like reading and want to take on more challenging range of texts than those studied at GCSE, then English Literature would be an enjoyable course for you.

### Possible Pathways:

English Literature is a facilitating subject for the Russell Group universities. The study of English Literature is suitable for entry to a broad range of career paths including: journalism and media careers; the law; teaching and business. A qualification is a testament to your communication skills and therefore viewed favourably by employers.

### Extra Curricular:

Past trips have include trips to the RSC in Stratford for Measure for Measure, Milton's cottage, Nottingham University for a lecture on the Gothic and an English Society hosted study day on Shakespeare.



# Mathematics

## Mathematics

 [cspears1@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk](mailto:cspears1@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk)

 @GSAMaths

### Subject Specific Entry Criteria

- Grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics (Desirable, GCSE Mathematics Grade 7)

### Exam Board:

Mathematics (AQA)

### Units Studied:

Linear Course examined at the end of two years.

### Course Information:

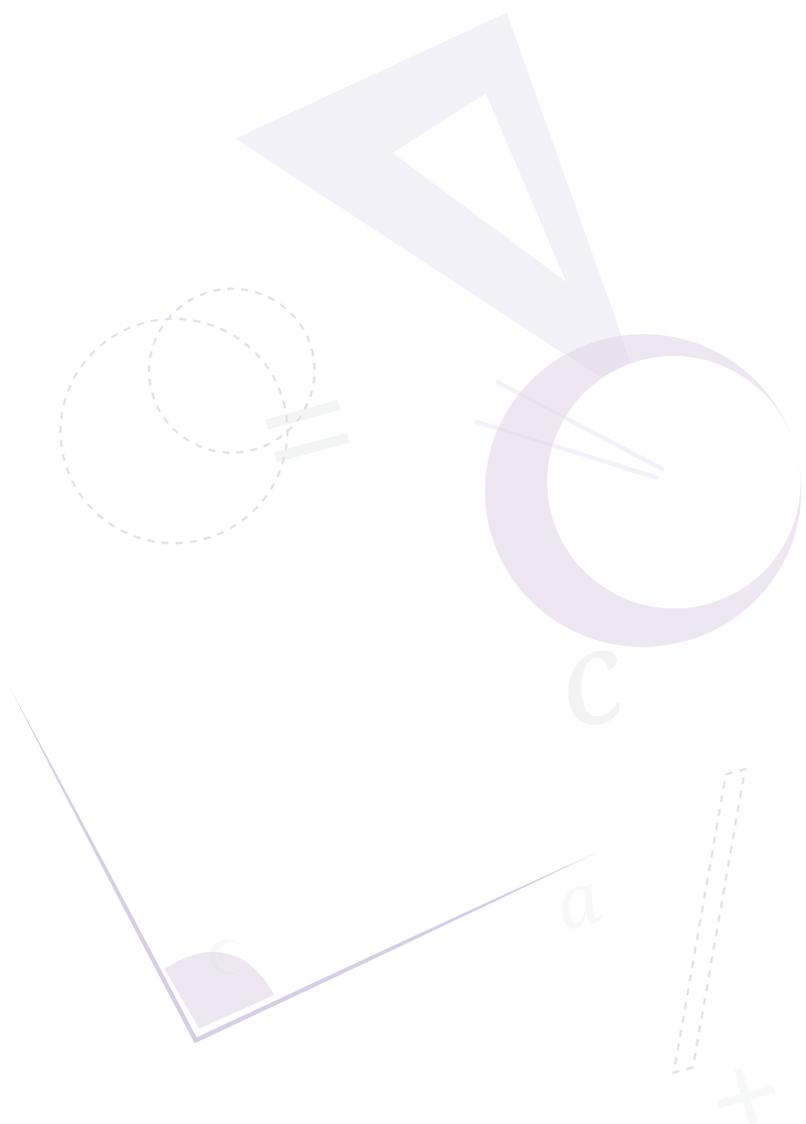
Mathematics is a challenging but worthwhile course which can provide you with the skills and problem solving capability required in a rapidly changing world. The course in Mathematics will develop mathematical problem solving skills through use of mathematical argument, language and proof and enable students to apply these skills to mathematical modelling. Students will explore three main areas of Mathematics; Pure Mathematics, Mechanics and Statistics.

### Possible Career Paths:

There are very few degree subjects for which a Maths A level would not be useful. Maths is a way of thinking, a set of tools, which give you valuable problem solving skills. Traditional careers tend to be Accountancy, Analysts, Construction, Computing & IT, Education, Engineering, Financial Services, Operational Research to name but a few.

### Extra Curricular:

UKMT Senior Maths Challenge and Team Maths Challenge. Sixth Form students also have the opportunity to teach students in other year groups.



# Mathematics

## Further Mathematics

 [cspears1@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk](mailto:cspears1@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk)

 @GSAMaths

### Subject Specific Entry Criteria

- Grade 7 in GCSE Mathematics (Desirable, GCSE Mathematics Grade 8)

### Exam Board:

Further Mathematics (AQA)

### Units Studied:

Linear course examined at the end of two years. (Opportunity to sit AS at the end of Year 1).

### Course Information:

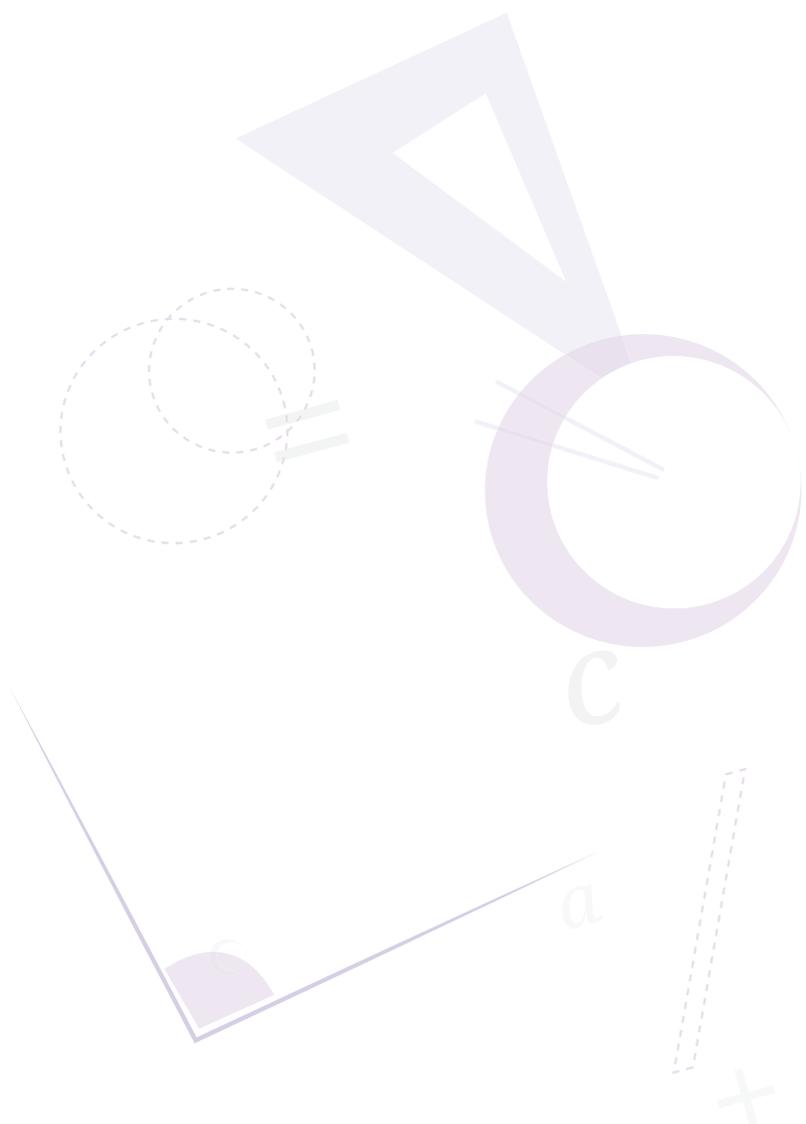
Further Mathematics allows the opportunity to explore three main areas of Mathematics; Pure, Discrete and Mechanics in greater depth and cover more content.

### Possible Career Paths:

Further Mathematics is sometimes a preferred A-level for specific degree courses. Please check with individual universities for entry requirements. Traditional careers being Accountancy, Analysts, Computing & IT, Education, Engineering, Financial Services, Operational Research and Sciences.

### Extra Curricular:

UKMT Senior Maths Challenge and Team Maths Challenge. Sixth Form students also have the opportunity to teach students in other year groups.



# Mathematics

## Core Mathematics

 [cspears1@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk](mailto:cspears1@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk)

 @GSAMaths

### Subject Specific Entry Criteria

- Grade 5 in GCSE Mathematics

### Exam Board:

Core Mathematics (AQA)

### Units Studied:

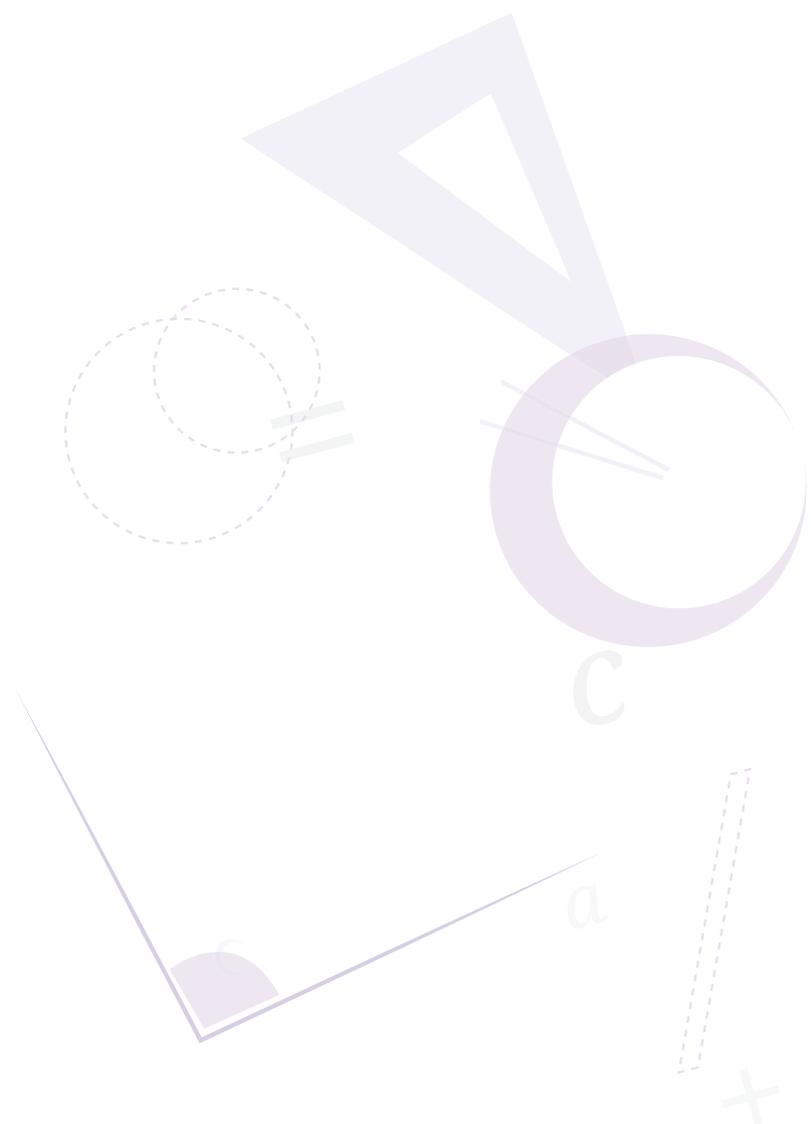
One year course and equivalent to an AS qualification.

### Course Information:

A course designed for Post-16 students who want to continue studying mathematics but not at AS or A level. It is a practical mathematical course focussing on real-life problems. The skills gained will supplement the mathematical elements studied in other A level subjects including; geography, sciences, psychology, business and economics.

### Possible Career Paths:

Any career involving an element of problem solving.



# Media and Creative Arts

## Art and Design

 [aeddy@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk](mailto:aeddy@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk)

 @GSAArt

### Subject Specific Entry Criteria

- Grade 5 in GCSE Art or attend an interview and provide a portfolio

### Exam Board:

AQA

### Units Studied:

- Component 1: Personal Investigation including 1000-3000 word essay
- Component 2: Externally Set Assignment including 15 hour examination

### Course Information:

Fine Art - This is a creative subject in which you are expected to research, develop ideas, analyse visual art and produce work of substance. You will present a portfolio of work that displays experimentation with a variety of media and clear links to artists' work that has inspired you to make a personal and expressive response to the starting themes. The Art department have a dedicated sixth form area that students are able to use during their own personal study periods. There is an Art shop to buy all your supplies at a discounted rate!

### Possible Career Paths:

Design based careers: interior design, architecture, product.

Academic careers: educator, therapist, curator, publisher, historian, digital art careers.

# Media and Creative Arts

## Music

[jbrown@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk](mailto:jbrown@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk)

### Subject Specific Entry Criteria

- Grade 5 in GCSE Music
- Grade 5 standard on at least one instrument
- Grade 5 theory an advantage.

### Exam Board:

Edexcel

### Units Studied:

- Performance 30%
- Recital Composition 30% 2 compositions based on set briefs by the examination board.
- Listening examination - based on set works and aural analysis

### Course Information:

Music - This course involves a combination of practical, composition work and historical study. You will perform a solo recital at the end of the course and complete two compositions to a brief set by the exam board. The listening paper requires an understanding of 4 part harmony, general aural analysis and essay questions relating to set works studied. We study 18 set works over 2 years and students need a good understanding of the set work and how they relate to other music from those genres.

### Possible Career Paths:

A level Music provide students with a good grounding in composition and theory for those wishing to pursue a career in Music. We have had a number of students over the past few years who have pursued music at University, following academic degree courses (Hull, Huddersfield) and also more practical Musical Theatre based courses.

### Extra Curricular:

Course provides opportunities for students to perform in recitals and showcase evenings throughout the year. This is an assessed part of the course. Students also have the opportunity to join the various music groups which meet regularly during the week. We hope that 6<sup>th</sup> form students take an active part within the department.



# Media and Creative Arts

## Media Studies

[gsmmedia@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk](mailto:gsmmedia@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk)

### Subject Specific Entry Criteria

- Grade 5 in GCSE Media (if studied)
- GCSE Grade 5 in English Language

### Exam Board:

OCR

### Units Studied:

Paper 1 (35%):

- Section A - News (45 marks) Set Texts: The Guardian/The Daily Mail;
- Section B - Media Language and Representations (25 marks) Advertising and Marketing - Charity, fragrance, sports drink Magazines - The Big Issue, Music Videos

Paper 2 (35%)

- Section A - Radio, Video Games and Film (30 marks) Set Texts: Radio 1 Breakfast Show, Minecraft, The Jungle Book (1967 & 2016)
- Section B - Long Form TV Drama (40 marks) An English language compared to a foreign language text

NEA 30%

- Students must work individually. Briefs to be released each year on 1<sup>st</sup> March of Year 12 Suggested briefs TV and Online (game show extract and website) Radio and Online (pilot show and website) Print and Online (magazine and website) Music Video and Online (music video and website).

### Course Information:

Experience a range of media 'texts'; films, long form television drama, newspapers, magazines, music videos, online gaming and radio. Make your own productions using video cameras and editing equipment. Research the

institutions that create media texts and the audiences who enjoy them.

### Specialist Resources:

Available to the department are a wide range of resources such as Digital SLR camera, specialist lighting, a small studio with Chroma curtains on tracks, giving the ability to create a cyclorama, and Adobe Premiere Pro CC2016 editing software.

[www.filmclub.org](http://www.filmclub.org)

### Possible Career Paths:

A level Media Studies offer a broad subject area applicable to a diversity of careers including: film & video, interactive leisure software, music, performing arts, TV and radio.

### Extra Curricular:

Sixth Form students attended BBC HQ in London and the BBC Manchester (Media City UK); they also visited the National Media Museum in Bradford and had the opportunity to attend screenings after-school at the Broadway Cinema in Nottingham.



# Media and Creative Arts

## Drama (and Theatre)

 [nskitt@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk](mailto:nskitt@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk)

 @GSDrama

### Subject Specific Entry Criteria

- Grade 5, Grade 4 accepted on an individual basis
- Grade 5 in GCSE English Language
- Some form of performance experience

### Exam Board:

Eduqas

### Units Studied:

A level Qualification

- Component 1 - Theatre Workshop 20% (Practical/Coursework)
- Component 2 - Text in Action 40% (Visiting examiner performance based)
- Component 3 - Text in Performance 40% (Written Examination).

### Course Information:

You will work within two dedicated drama spaces with full black out potential equipped with sound system and multi LED stage lights controlled by a Eurolight desk. Drama and Theatre offers a practical and challenging course of study which encourages learners to:

- Develop and apply an informed, analytical framework for making, performing, interpreting and understanding drama and theatre understand the place of relevant theoretical research in informing the processes and practices involved in creating theatre and the place of practical exploration in informing theoretical knowledge of drama and theatre.
- Develop an understanding and appreciation of how the social, cultural and historical contexts of performance texts

have influenced the development of drama and theatre understand the practices used in twenty-first century theatre making

- Experience a range of opportunities to create theatre, both published text- based and devised work.
- Participate as a theatre maker and as an audience member in live theatre.
- Understand and experience the collaborative relationship between various roles within theatre develop and demonstrate a range of theatre making skills develop the creativity and independence to become effective theatre makers.
- Adopt safe working practices as a theatre maker.
- Analyse and evaluate their own work and the work of others. Texts Studied - Hedda Gabler - Henrik Ibsen Accidental Death of an Anarchist - Dario Fo The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night time - Simon Stephens Mother Courage - Bertolt Brecht. \* Subject to change based on cohort

### Possible Career Paths:

Working in the performing arts as performers, practitioners or managers, teaching, drama therapy as well as providing effective and recognised transferable skills for careers such as Education, Law, Medicine, Business and Politics.

### Extra Curricular:

You will attend at least 4 theatrical performances. The opportunity to attend other regular theatre trips are frequent. You will have the chance to work with professionals and take advantage of our links with Nottingham Playhouse and the INSPIRE Academy. Opportunities to perform in and support whole school theatrical events as well as support in lessons and run clubs for younger students.

# Modern Foreign Languages

## French

 [lgeorge@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk](mailto:lgeorge@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk)

 @GSAMFL

### Subject Specific Entry Criteria

- Grade 5 in GCSE French

### Exam Board:

AQA

### Units Studied:

French: Aspects of French-speaking society:  
La famille en voie de changement. La « cyber-société. Le rôle du bénévolat.

Artistic culture in the French-speaking world: Une culture fière de son patrimoine.  
La musique francophone contemporaine.  
Cinéma: le septième art.

Aspects of French-speaking society: Les aspects positifs d'une société diverse. Quelle vie pour les marginalisés. Comment on traite les criminels.

- Paper 1: Listening, reading and writing
- Paper 2: Writing (2 essays - One text and one film or two texts from the list set in the specification)
- Paper 3: Speaking - includes Individual research project (IRP)

### Course Information:

Language courses equip students with linguistic skills necessary in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century workplace. The courses are taught by highly qualified, experienced teachers using excellent resources such as interactive white boards, internet resources, authentic and up to date texts. Students will have the opportunity to broaden their linguistic and cultural knowledge through studying literature, cinema, geography and the history of the country.

### Possible Career Paths:

International Business, Translator, Teacher.

### Extra Curricular:

Students have the opportunity to attend language workshops in French and Spanish at Nottingham University and support students learning a language in other year groups.



# Modern Foreign Languages

## Spanish

 [lgeorge@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk](mailto:lgeorge@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk)

 @GSAMFL

### Subject Specific Entry Criteria

- Grade 5 in GCSE Spanish

### Exam Board:

AQA

### Units Studied:

Spanish: Aspects of Hispanic society: El ciberespacio. La igualdad de los sexos.

Artistic culture in the Hispanic world: La identidad regional en España. El patrimonio cultural.

Multiculturalism in Hispanic society: El racismo. La convivencia.

Aspects of political life in the Hispanic world: Monarquías y dictaduras. Los movimientos populares.

- Paper 1: Listening, reading and writing
- Paper 2: Writing (2 essays - One text and one film or two texts from the list set in the specification)
- Paper 3: Speaking - includes Individual research project (IRP)

### Course Information:

Language courses equip students with linguistic skills necessary in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century workplace. The courses are taught by highly qualified, experienced teachers using excellent resources such as interactive white boards, internet resources, authentic and up to date texts. Students will have the opportunity to broaden their linguistic and cultural knowledge through studying literature, cinema, geography and the history of the country.

### Possible Career Paths:

International Business, Translator, Teacher.

### Extra Curricular:

Extra-curricular: Students have the opportunity to attend language workshops in French and Spanish at Nottingham University and support students learning a language in other year groups.



# Science

## Chemistry

 [cjones@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk](mailto:cjones@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk)

 [GS\\_Chemistry](#)

many diverse professions are well represented in the career opportunities open to chemists and a degree in chemistry is still seen as one of the most desirable to obtain from a British university.

### Subject Specific Entry Criteria

- Grade 6 in GCSE Chemistry or Grade 6-6 in GCSE Combined Science.
- Grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics

### Exam Board:

AQA

### Units Studied:

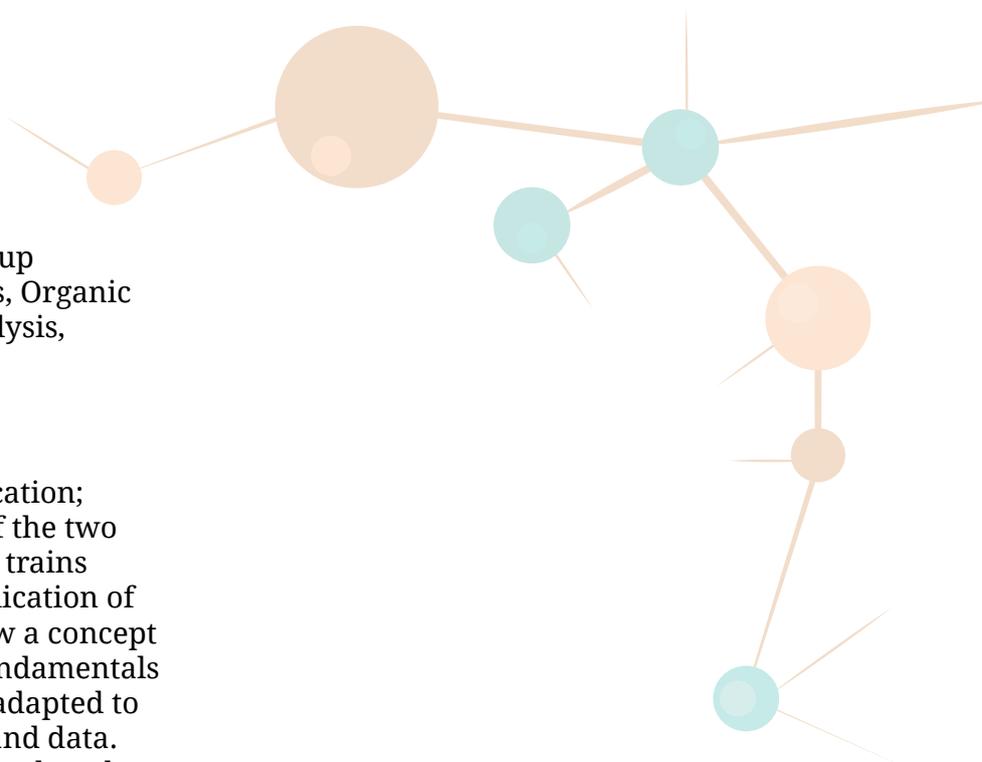
Energetics, Equilibria, Kinetics, Group Chemistry, Redox, Transition metals, Organic Chemistry, Isomerism, Organic Analysis, Organic Synthesis, Biochemistry.

### Course Information:

A level chemistry is a linear qualification; assessments take place at the end of the two year course. The course specifically trains students in the acquisition and application of essential laboratory skills. We follow a concept led approach, in which chemical fundamentals from prior study are analysed and adapted to meet the needs of novel situations and data. New comprehension is therefore developed and refined before consolidation through a variety of learning opportunities in numerous settings. Course content can be found in more detail via the AQA website but traditional areas of chemistry are covered comprehensively, including energetics; kinetics; equilibria; group chemistry and organic chemistry.

### Possible Career Paths:

Many varied areas of scientific and other endeavour are strongly represented by students of chemistry. University courses which stem from the course directly include, Medicine, Pharmacy and the Life Sciences but Physical sciences also draw heavily upon those with an A level in Chemistry. In later life,



# Science

## Physics

 [khancock@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk](mailto:khancock@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk)

 [GS\\_Physics](#)

### Subject Specific Entry Criteria

- Grade 6 in GCSE Physics or Grade 6-6 in GCSE Combined Science.
- Grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics

### Exam Board:

Edexcel

### Units Studied:

Working as a Physicist, Mechanics, Waves and the Nature of Light, Electric Circuits, Materials, Further Mechanics, Electric and Magnetic Fields, Nuclear and Particle Physics, Thermal Physics, Gravitational Fields, Space Oscillations.

### Course Information:

A level Physics is a linear qualification; assessments take place at the end of the two year course. The course not only inspires students to think as scientists, but also enables them to work as scientists. The concept-led approach to A level Physics begins with a study of the laws, theories and models of physics, and finishes with an exploration of their practical applications. Students' skills and technical competency when completing practical work will be assessed by teachers. This will form the basis for the award of a Practical Endorsement at A level. This is separate to the A level grade and, if awarded, will be reported as a 'Pass' on A level certificates for students who achieve it

### Possible Career Paths:

Physics will help you to build up your problem solving, research, and analytical skills. With these skills you'll be able to test out new ideas plus question and investigate other people's theories, which is useful for

any kind of job that involves research or debate. Physics is a seriously useful subject for the majority of STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths) careers and you'll find physicists everywhere, in industry, transport, government, universities, the armed forces, the secret service, games companies, research labs and more.

*"Physicists are involved in finding solutions to many of our most pressing challenges, – as well as studying atoms or making sense of the extra-terrestrial, physicists diagnose disease, model the climate, design computer games, predict markets and design hi-tech goods. Studying physics opens doors."*

- Institute of Physics

### Extra Curricular:

Trip to CERN, offered to all Year 12 students studying the A level Physics course. This is a two day trip organised by ourselves where students have the opportunity to visit CERN on an organised tour by Physicists working there, as well as spend time sightseeing in Geneva.



# Science

## Biology

[nbaker@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk](mailto:nbaker@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk)

### Subject Specific Entry Criteria

- Grade 6 in GCSE Biology or 6-6 in Combined Science.
- Grade 5 in GCSE Mathematics.

### Exam Board:

Edexcel (SNAB)

### Units Studied:

- Genes and Health
- Genes and Disease
- Environmental Biology
- Forensics
- Grey Matter
- Human Physiology

### Course Information:

Biology is the study of living things. It explores the mechanics of life and biological systems as well as the interactions of living organisms with their environment. The course uses a context led approach which means that all aspects of the syllabus are related to real-life situations to help with understanding the content.

### Possible Career Paths:

Higher education lecturer Microbiologist  
Nature conservation officer Pharmacologist  
Physician associate Research scientist  
(life sciences) Research scientist (medical)  
Secondary school teacher Soil scientist  
Zoologist Acupuncturist Dentist General  
practice doctor Health promotion specialist  
Science writer Sustainability consultant

### Extra Curricular:

You will be required to carry out an in depth study of field techniques and sampling methods which involves a visit to Wollaton Hall.

# Science

## Level 3 Extended Certificate in Applied Science (single A level equivalent)

[✉ cjones@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk](mailto:cjones@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk)

### Subject Specific Entry Criteria

- Grade 4-4 in GCSE Combined Science or
- Grade 4 in GCSE Chemistry/Physics/Biology

### Exam Board:

AQA

### Units Studied:

The sections studied in this course are assessed either by examination or by marking of work completed at college (portfolio).

The course units are;

- Key Concepts in Science (written exam)
- Applied experimental technique (portfolio)
- Science in the modern world (written exam with information to study beforehand)
- The human body (written exam)
- Investigating Science (portfolio)

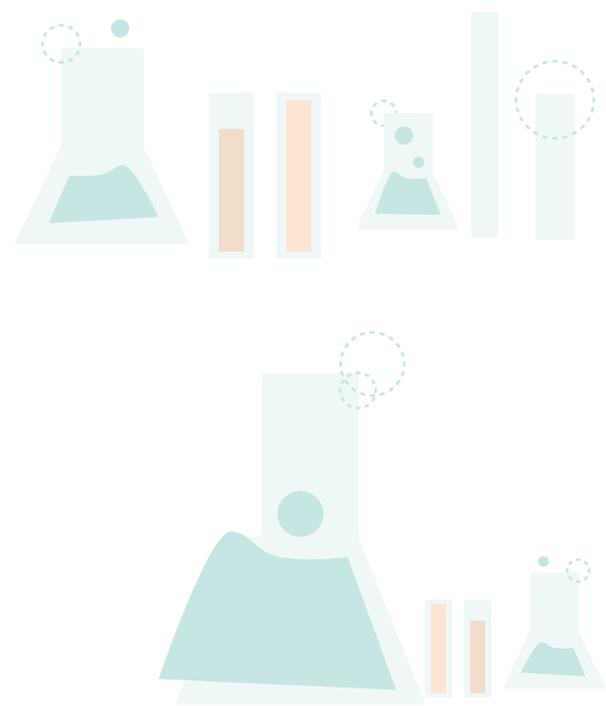
Candidates will have the opportunity to choose one subject to specialise in and be assessed on. There are three options for this, which are Microbiology; Medical Physics or Organic Chemistry.

### Course Information:

This course is brand new for this year and is aimed at students who have a passion for the Sciences, are hard working and dedicated. This will give them an A level in Applied Science and has a coursework/portfolio element as opposed to the 100% terminal exams of the traditional A level Sciences.

### Possible Career Paths:

A-level Applied Science is a good choice for students considering higher education in any Science-based course, including: Biochemical Sciences, Chemistry, Food Technology, Human Physiology, Nursing, Sports Science, Materials Science, and Medical Physics. Nursing and Paramedic. Field scientific officers such as Scene of Crimes for the Police service and Medical Science Laboratory Officers (MLSO) for the NHS.



# Social Sciences

## Psychology

[✉ kkelly@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk](mailto:kkelly@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk)

[🐦 @gsa\\_psych](https://twitter.com/gsa_psych)

## Extra Curricular:

Tutor2U revision and exam preparation student workshop, Student conferences.

## Subject Specific Entry Criteria

Desirable:

- Grade 5-5 in GCSE Combined Science
- GCSE Grade 5 in English

## Exam Board:

AQA

## Units Studied:

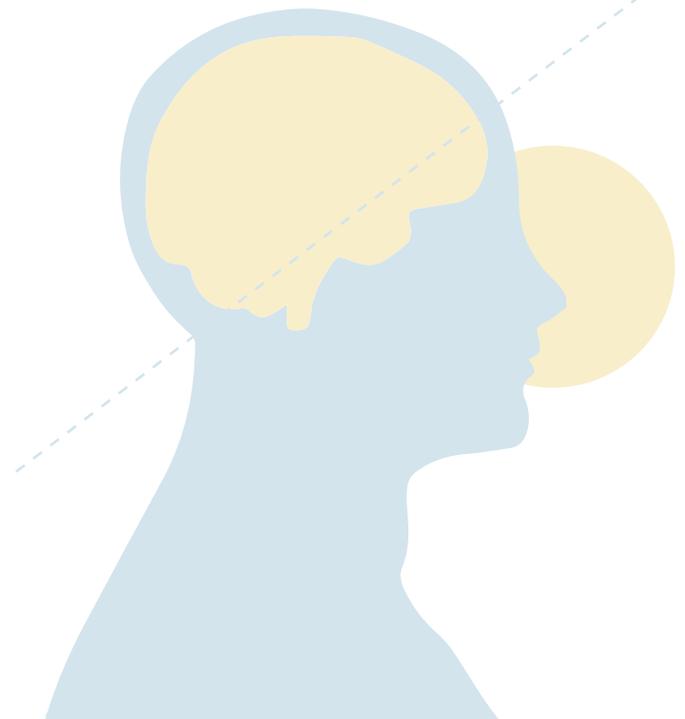
- Year 1 - Memory, Attachment, Social Influence, Psychopathology and Research Methods
- Year 2 - Approaches in Psychology, Biopsychology, Issues and Debates, Aggression, Relationships and Schizophrenia

## Course Information:

Psychology is the scientific study of how people think, feel and behave. Psychology has many different areas including social behaviour, cognitive processes and mental health. This course will help students to develop a number of skills including how to view the world around you from different perspectives, how to plan and conduct scientific investigations, how to analyse and interpret data, develop critical reasoning skills and how to put across your point of view fluently.

## Possible Career Paths:

Chartered psychologist (clinical, educational, forensic, health etc.), social work, police force, primary and secondary education, counselling, human resources, market researcher, media and advertising.



# Social Science

## Sociology

[lxprior@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk](mailto:lxprior@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk)

### Subject Specific Entry Criteria

Desirable:

- Grade 5 GCSE English Language

### Exam Board:

AQA

### Units Studied:

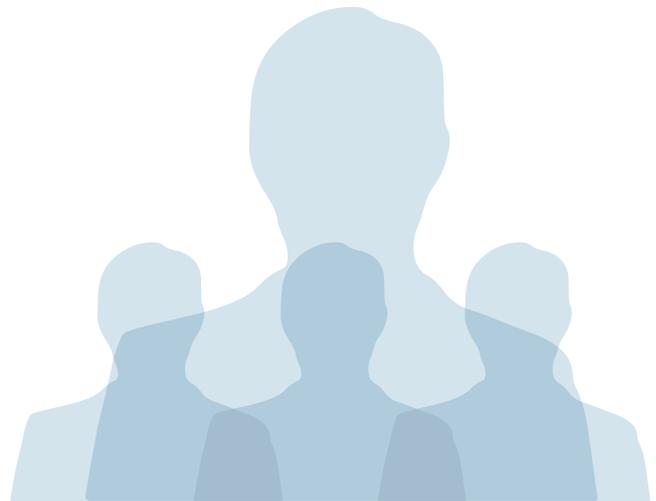
- Family and Households
- Education
- Beliefs
- Crime and Deviance
- Research Methods

### Course Information:

Course information: An academic discipline with departments in most of the world's universities. It involves learning about how human societies are constructed and where our beliefs and daily routines come from; it re-examines in a new light many of the taken for granted assumptions we all hold and which influence the way we think about ourselves and others. It's about developing a critical understanding of society. Sociology is a subject that combines classical theory, modern research and critical thinking. Specialist resources: All topics have an individual study guide. The classroom is stocked with a wide variety of textbooks and revision guides. The students are directed towards internet resources that are both highly specialised and broadly accessible.

### Possible Career Paths:

Possible career paths: The skills and approach learnt in sociology will be transferable to a wide variety of careers and especially for further studying. The critical nature of the subject adds an extra dimension for Social Sciences, English and Media students by providing a theoretical structure to analysis.



# Social Sciences

## History

[scoell@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk](mailto:scoell@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk)

respected as a high-status academic course by professions and universities.

### Subject Specific Entry Criteria

- Grade 5 in GCSE History
- Grade 5 GCSE English Language

### Exam Board:

OCR

### Units Studied:

- Alfred and the Making of England 871-1016 (25%)
- Russia 1894-1941 (15%)
- Rebellion and Disorder under the Tudors, 1485-1603 (40%)
- Coursework, topic-based essay (20%)

### Course Information:

A-level History is consistently one of the most popular and highest-performing courses at GSA. History A level investigates people and societies of the past and considers their impact on and their relevance to our lives today. It is also about how the past is interpreted differently by historians. You will gain a wide ranging understanding of politics, economics, society and international relations. Not only will you develop an analytical and critical mind, an understanding of current affairs and other cultures but also the capacity to weigh arguments and respect different viewpoints. Our course has an unusually wide chronological and thematic range and provides an excellent preparation for the study of History at university.

### Possible Career Paths:

History is a very useful subject to take for a wide variety of careers, including: Lawyer, Journalist, Politics, International Relations, Business, Teaching, Museum Work or Archaeology. It is a 'facilitating subject' and is



# Social Sciences

## Geography

[cmccool@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk](mailto:cmccool@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk)

### Subject Specific Entry Criteria

- Grade 5 in Geography
- Grade 5 in GCSE English Language
- Grade 5 in GCSE Mathematics

### Exam Board:

Edexcel

### Units Studied:

- Regenerating Places
- Tectonic Processes and Hazards
- Coastal Landscapes
- Globalisation
- The Carbon Cycle and Energy Security
- Water Supply and Water Security
- Superpowers
- Migration, Identity and Sovereignty

### Course Information:

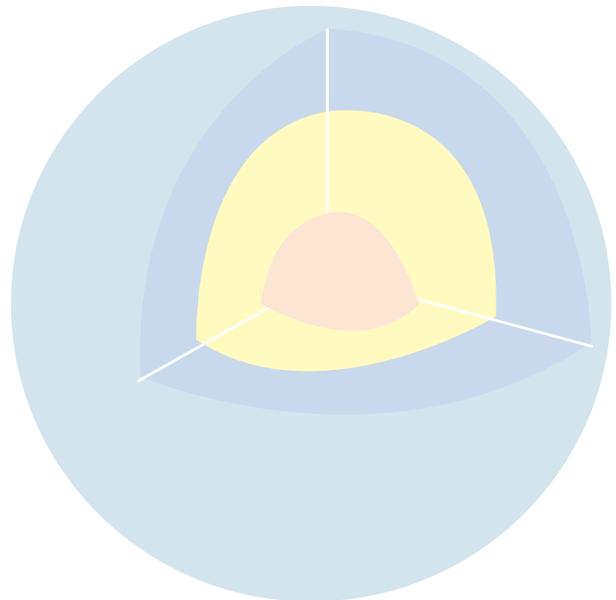
A wide range of contemporary geographical issues are explored. Practical fieldwork skills, interrogation of geographical data and problem solving are all key elements of the two residential field trips that run throughout the A level Geography course. There is a balance between physical and human geography. Tectonic hazards, geomorphology, water security and physical systems provide an in-depth understanding of the natural world. The impact of humans on the planet is investigated and evaluated through urban and rural regeneration, globalisation, economics, future energy provision, migration and the refugee crisis, and the rise or demise of countries considered to be rising or current superpowers.

### Possible Career Paths:

Environment Agency, Town Planning, Water Industry, Quantity Surveying; others may be more generalised, e.g. Retail Management, Police Force, Armed Services, Business and Politics.

### Extra Curricular:

Residential fieldwork in North Devon (Autumn Year 12) and Barcelona (Summer Year 12).



# Social Sciences

## Philosophy and Ethics

✉ [eparr@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk](mailto:eparr@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk)

🐦 [@MsRussellGSA](https://twitter.com/MsRussellGSA)

### Subject Specific Entry Criteria

- Grade 5 in GCSE Philosophy and Ethics (if studied)
- Grade 5 in GCSE English.

### Exam Board:

OCR

### Units Studied:

- Philosophy of Religion
- Ethics
- Development in Christian Thought

### Course Information:

The course is divided into three papers which cover the breadths of human experience and tackles ancient questions about our existence and world around us. The first paper is Philosophy of Religion which allows us to question the idea of truth and ask questions about our existence, some of the topics on this paper are; the legacy of Plato and Aristotle, the problem of evil and arguments for and against the existence of God. The second paper is Ethics which studies the controversial topic of euthanasia, the modern day issues surrounding business ethics and ethical approaches of Immanuel Kant, Aquinas and Utilitarianism. The final paper is Development in Christian Thought, topics on this paper include a study of human nature, various beliefs about what happens when we die and the life of Dietrich Bonhoeffer (a church minister who smuggled Jews out of Nazi Germany and was involved in a failed plot to kill Hitler).

### Possible Career Paths:

The skills gained through Philosophy and Ethics prepare students for careers in law (you learn how to argue in this subject!), lecturing, research, politics (many politicians have studied some form of philosophy), civil service, police, journalism, social work and medicine (many medical courses like students to have studied the ethical issues surrounding medicine e.g. euthanasia) In 2015 two studies

➔ [www.therichest.com](http://www.therichest.com)

and

➔ [www.payscale.com](http://www.payscale.com)

into higher education both came to the same conclusion that studying Philosophy leads to higher earnings and stronger employability compared to other university degrees.



# Sport and Health Studies

## A level Physical Education

[mpowell@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk](mailto:mpowell@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk)

[@GSA\\_Sports](https://twitter.com/GSA_Sports)

### Subject Specific Entry Criteria

- Grade 5 in GCSE PE (if studied)
- Grade 5-5 in GCSE Combined Science

### Exam Board:

AQA

### Units Studied:

- 35% - Paper 1: Factors affecting participation in physical activity in sport
- 35% - Paper 2: Factors affecting optimal performance in physical activity and sport
- 30% - Non-exam assessment: Practical performance in physical activity and sport

### Course Information:

Studying A level Physical Education will give you a fantastic insight into the amazing world of sports performance. Not only will you have the chance to perform in a sport through the non-exam assessment component, you will also develop a wide ranging knowledge into the how and why of Physical activity and sport. The combination of physical performance and academic challenge provides an exciting opportunity for students. You can perform, and then through the academic study improve your performance through application of the theory. Physical Education is studied through a range of different contexts and the impact it has on both ours and other's everyday lives. You will learn the reasons why we do things, why some people outperform others, mentally and physically. You will also delve into the ethical considerations behind the use of drugs and also the influence that modern technology is having in and on physical activity and sport.

### Possible Career Paths:

A-level Physical Education is an excellent qualification for those interested in working in the sports or the leisure industry. Possible careers include Sport Science, Physical Education Teaching, Physiotherapy and Fitness Training.

### Extra Curricular:

Boys football team. Training and supporting school teams.



# Sport and Health Studies

**Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Sport and Exercise Science (equivalent to 3 A-Levels)**

---

**Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Sport and Exercise Science (equivalent to 2 A-Levels)**

---

[mpowell@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk](mailto:mpowell@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk)

[GSA\\_Sports](#)

## Subject Specific Entry Criteria

- Standard entry criteria for the Sixth Form

## Exam Board:

Pearson

## Units Studied:

Dependent on the study path (double or Triple A level equivalent).

## Course Information:

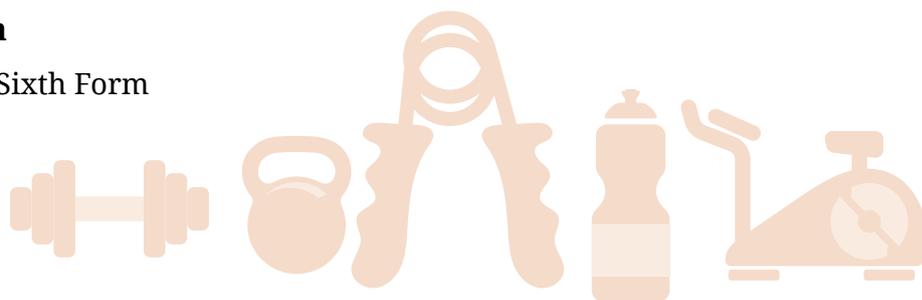
A broad basis of study for the sport and exercise science sector. Designed to support progression to higher education when taken as part of a programme of study that includes other appropriate BTEC Nationals or A-Levels

## Possible Career Paths:

The course can be used as access to a university sports related degree (Sports & Exercise Science, Coaching, Sports Development, PE teaching), or it can provide a route straight into employment in the sports and fitness sector.

## Extra Curricular:

Training and supporting school teams.



# Sport and Health Studies

## BTEC National Extended Diploma in Health and Social Care (triple A level equivalent)

[kmulenga@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk](mailto:kmulenga@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk)

### Subject Specific Entry Criteria

- Standard entry criteria for the Sixth Form

### Exam Board:

Pearson

### Course Information:

The Caring Profession offers rewarding careers working with adults or children in the community. BTEC National Extended Diploma in Health and Social Care Level 3 - If you want an opportunity to gain a broad knowledge and understanding of and develop skills in the health and social care sector which will enable you to secure a worthwhile career or to progress to university. Our students take part in a variety of tasks including working in the community which develops not only knowledge skills, but also professional interpersonal skills.

### Possible Career Paths:

Students who successfully complete this programme will be able to go onto further study at University. Alternatively, you are qualified to work in the Health and Social Care Sector.

### Extra Curricular:

Training and supporting school teams.



# Sport and Health Studies

## **BTEC National Extended Diploma in Children's Play, Learning and Development (triple A level equivalent)**

[kmulenga@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk](mailto:kmulenga@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk)

### **Subject Specific Entry Criteria**

- Standard entry criteria for the Sixth Form

### **Exam Board:**

Pearson

### **Course Information:**

BTEC National Diploma in Children's Play, Learning and Development Level 3 - This is an advanced level of course, which includes placement two days a week. You will be provided with a combination of theoretical knowledge and practical experience making you highly employable.

### **Possible Career Paths:**

For anyone who would like to progress to University level qualifications leading to nursery and primary teaching, social work, paediatric nursing and midwifery.

### **Extra Curricular:**

Training and supporting school teams.



# The EPQ

## Extended Project Qualification

[lxprior@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk](mailto:lxprior@george-spencer.notts.sch.uk)

### Subject Specific Entry Criteria

- The EPQ is open to all GSA Sixth Form students who have met the requirements for the Sixth Form

### Exam Board:

AQA

### Units Studied:

This is not a typical subject. It is a single project that the student chooses.

### Course Information:

The EPQ is a qualification that has been designed to develop sixth form students' project skills. It is unique as a qualification because it allows the student to choose their own topic and outcome. This means that they could do a traditional 5000 word essay or they could choose to create an artefact such as a video, booklet, pamphlet, dress, scientific experiment, song or dramatic performance (all of which have been done at GSA).

The students will begin with guided hours in the classroom to develop structures and systems for a successful completion. As the project develops students will take increasing levels of responsibility and they will work more independently.

At the conclusion of the project the students will have three pieces of evidence to submit for marking: the completed project, a log book detailing all planning and evaluation and a presentation.

### Possible Career Paths:

This qualification is valuable for all careers as a way of demonstrating high level planning, writing and evaluation skills.

