



HOLMLEIGH PARK SIXTH FORM

COURSE INFORMATION
SEPTEMBER 2024



WELCOME

I am delighted to welcome you to our prospectus, and to tell you a little about Holmleigh Park Sixth Form.

Our Sixth Form is extremely ambitious, and we offer a balance of challenge and support which ensures all students – whether on our academic or technical pathways – can progress on to top universities or competitive apprenticeships.

Our three principles – Work Hard, Be Kind, Take Responsibility – ensure that Sixth Form students are not just academically successful, but leave as ambitious, confident and successful young adults with the highest standards of integrity.

I look forward to welcoming you to Holmleigh Park.

Dan Hudson • Headteacher

OUR SIXTH FORM

Our Sixth Form is the pinnacle of the school, and represents the gateway between Holmleigh Park and the wider world. We provide an excellent opportunity for you to develop your talents and abilities and to support your future aspirations.

As a Sixth Form, we offer a close-knit community, and outstanding individual support. We are proud of our academic and technical pathways, which offer you a course to suit your ambitions, and to ensure you have the best possible chance of success.

We welcome visits to look round the school at any time, and I look forward to meeting you in person.

Catherine Marsden-Green • Assistant Headteacher and Head of Sixth Form



OUR VALUES

Everything we do at Holmleigh Park is based on our three principles: Work Hard, Be Kind, Take Responsibility. We believe students who embody these principles will not only be successful at school, but will go on to lead more fulfilled lives and make positive contributions to society.

These principles are reflected in our high standards. We ask a great deal of our students: to work hard in every minute of every lesson, to be polite and considerate and to throw themselves into the school's extra-curricular life. In return, we offer challenging lessons which follow a world-class curriculum, a warm pastoral system which looks after every child, and a range of extra-curricular activities to encourage students to try new experiences and step beyond their comfort zones.

THE FACILITIES
AT HOLMLEIGH PARK
ARE **SUPERB** – BOTH
FOR WORKING
AND FOR **EXTRA-
CURRICULAR**
ACTIVITIES.

YEAR 13 STUDENT

CURRICULUM STRUCTURE

Year 12 students have the option to choose from the Technical Pathway or the A Level Pathway.

The Technical Pathway

Students will study a vocational course over two years developing specialist knowledge, practical skills and understanding within one area. This qualification is equivalent to three A Levels. The Extended Diploma is fully recognised by universities and carries UCAS points, enabling students to progress to university or direct into an apprenticeship. A larger proportion of the qualification is non-examined assessment (coursework) than A Levels.

The Technical Pathway entry criteria is five grade 4+ GCSEs including Mathematics or English Language (subject specific requirements are detailed within the subject information).

A Level Pathway

Students will study three A Levels over two years. A Levels are assessed primarily by terminal examination (small proportion of coursework in some subjects). A Levels are recognised by universities and carry UCAS points, students can progress to university or direct into apprenticeships.

The A Level Pathway entry criteria is five grade 5+ GCSEs including Mathematics and English Language (subject specific requirements are detailed within the subject information).

Technical Pathway – choose 1 Extended Diploma	A Level Pathway – choose 3 A Levels
• Art and Design	• Art
• Business Studies	• Biology
• Creative Digital Media Production	• Chemistry
• Applied Science	• Criminology
• Information Technology	• English Language
• Performing Arts	• English Literature
• Sports Studies	• Environmental Science
	• French
	• Geography
	• History
	• Mathematics
	• Further Mathematics
	• Music
	• Media
	• Photography
	• Physical Education
	• Physics
	• Politics
	• Psychology
	• Spanish

For information about the application and enrolment process, please see the back of this booklet.



“ THE SIXTH FORM
IS BIG ENOUGH TO
OFFER A **WIDE RANGE**
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SMALL ENOUGH THAT
WE STILL FEEL LIKE
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YEAR 13 STUDENT

What is the course about?

This Diploma offers students the opportunities within health science, food science and environmental science to develop professional and practical skills through carrying out real experiments and research, as well as theoretical knowledge and understanding to underpin these skills. They will practice lab techniques and also gain an understanding of the different types of scientific industries and settings.

Course content

This Diploma offers topics such as:

- Science fundamentals and laboratory techniques
- Cell biology
- Genetics
- Laboratory hazards
- Nutrition and microbiology
- Food technology
- Environmental management and conservation of biodiversity
- Waste management and sustainability

Assessment

Science Fundamentals and Laboratory Techniques are externally assessed through exams. The remainder of the diploma is internally assessed assignments.

Career pathways

Study science-related degree courses at higher education. The course carries up to a maximum of 168 UCAS Tariff points.

Employment opportunities: scientist, medical technician, paramedic, nurse, food technologist, nutritionist, conservation biologist, environmental management specialist or forensic scientist.

Entry criteria

Minimum of five 4 to 9 grades at GCSE, including grade 5 in GCSE Combined Science.

What is the course about?

This course is designed to give students the knowledge and understanding of visual communication and the creative process enabling them to develop their own creative voice. Students will develop an understanding of the importance and influence of the work of artists and designers to develop and realise their own creative intentions. They produce a portfolio of art and design work in areas such as fashion, textiles, graphics, photography, 3D studies and fine art.

Course content

Study of the following will be included:

- Visual recording and communication
- Critical and contextual studies in art and design
- The creative process
- Materials, techniques and processes in art and design
- Developing an art and design portfolio
- Managing a client brief
- Developing and realising creative intentions

Assessment

It will be assessed through a combination of assignments and projects.

External assessment is 42% with internal coursework of 58%.

Career pathways

Study art and design related degree courses at higher education. The course carries up to a maximum of 168 UCAS Tariff points.

Employment opportunities: photographer, junior digital imaging technician, design assistant, technical illustrator, stylist, trainee pattern cutter and visual merchandiser.

Entry criteria

Minimum of five 4 to 9 grades at GCSE.

A portfolio of work may further support your application.

What is the course about?

This course is for students interested in developing the knowledge and skills required for employment and for the community as a whole. It's also about developing the behaviours and attributes needed to progress and succeed in education and in work. It is an ideal foundation for both entering the workplace or going into university, providing students with a theoretical background together with practical skills that transfer into the modern workplace and give them a competitive advantage.

Course content

The course covers the following key business topics:

- Human resources
- Marketing
- Business decisions
- Working in business
- Accounting: management, concepts and accounts
- Economics
- Project management
- Business practices
- International business

Assessment

It will be assessed through both internal and external assessments.

Career pathways

Study business-related degree courses at higher education. The course carries up to a maximum of 168 UCAS Tariff points.

Employment opportunities: accountancy, advertising, banking, investment and financial services, general management, HR/personnel, management consultancy, public relations and retail management.

Entry criteria

Minimum of five 4 to 9 grades at GCSE.

What is the course about?

This course is for students interested in gaining knowledge and understanding of creative digital media production and developing an understanding of how to work within the media industries. They choose the area they wish to follow in a variety of different media, e.g. in film, television and radio or interactive publishing and media or digital games.

Course content

Study of the following will be included:

- Digital film and video production
- Digital media skills
- Media enterprise
- Film, television, website and radio production
- Digital games production

Assessment

There are seven mandatory units, four of which are externally assessed; plus six optional units chosen by the learners.

Career pathways

Study media related degree courses at higher education. The course carries up to a maximum of 168 UCAS Tariff points.

Employment opportunities: journalism, marketing, film making, banking, law, publishing, broadcasting, television, video and multimedia, media research, political research or speech writing.

Entry criteria

Minimum of five 4 to 9 grades at GCSE.

What is the course about?

The qualification allows students to study IT to gain comprehensive knowledge, which will allow them to specialise with breadth and depth into more specialist and cutting edge job roles across the IT sectors.

Course content

Units in this qualification include:

- Fundamentals of IT
- Global information
- Cyber security
- Cloud technology
- Computer networks
- Virtual and augmented reality
- Project management
- Mobile technology
- Social media and digital marketing
- Enterprise computing
- Big data analytics

Assessment

The students will be assessed in examination format, in a practical way and through a variety of coursework projects.

Career pathways

Study IT related degree courses at higher education. The course carries up to a maximum of 168 UCAS Tariff points.

Employment opportunities: IT technical support, database administrator, field technician, network technician, infrastructure technician, network planner, network engineer, junior digital content developer, 3D graphics technician, virtual reality software technician, software developer, digital identity planners or digital content developer.

Entry criteria

Minimum of five 4 to 9 grades at GCSE.

What is the course about?

This course is designed to be the first step to musical, television, film or theatre work, be it either in performance or technical support. Employment within the industry not only depends on talent, but also a sense of determination to succeed. This course provides students with the knowledge and skills to succeed in these fields.

Course content

Students choose a pathway on a particular discipline: acting, dance, musical theatre; or take a general route for further study in the sector. They study their discipline with these topics:

- Investigating practitioners work
- Developing skills and techniques for live performance
- Group performance workshop
- Performing arts in the community
- Individual performance commission
- Final live performance to an audience
- Employment opportunities in the performing arts

Assessment

It will be assessed through a combination of assignments and projects. External assessment is 42% with internal coursework of 58%.

Career pathways

Study performing arts related degree courses at higher education. The course carries up to a maximum of 168 UCAS Tariff points.

Employment opportunities: actor, PR manager, producer, musical director, camera operator, playwright, lighting, set and costume designer, composer, comedian.

Entry criteria

Minimum of five 4 to 9 grades at GCSE.

What is the course about?

The course covers a wide variety of topics related to sports and the sports industry. Practical participation and coaching in sport are included within the course. It will allow students to develop the skills, knowledge and understanding to deliver sport and physical activity to an individual or group of participants; plus identify those who would benefit most from participation, select which sport or physical activity would be best for them, and how to organise, co-ordinate and facilitate different events or programmes of activity that allow people to actively engage in and enjoy sport and physical activity.

Course content

Units of study include:

- Performance analysis in sport and exercise
- Improving fitness for sport and physical activity
- Body systems and the effects of physical activity
- Sports coaching and activity leadership activity
- Organisation of sports events
- Biomechanics and movement analysis
- Physical activity for specific groups
- Nutrition and diet for sport and exercise
- Health and fitness testing for sport and exercise
- Sport and exercise psychology and sociology

Assessment

There are four examined units with the remainder being coursework.

Career pathways

Study sport-related degree courses at higher education. The course carries up to a maximum of 168 UCAS Tariff points.

Employment opportunities: sport development officer, community sport officer, senior sports coach, senior activity leader, sports coaching, sports physiotherapy, leisure centre management.

Entry criteria

Minimum of five 5 to 9 grades at GCSE.

What is the course about?

In this course, students will explore fine art, including a variety of themes looking at portraiture, landscape still life, abstraction human form, narrative or experimental imagery. These areas can be combined using a range of mixed media. During this course, students will develop their capacity for independent working. Students are free to explore both traditional methods and digital techniques within their work.

Course content

The study of fine art through:

- Shape and texture
- Contextual study
- Personal response
- Externally set assignment

Assessment

Coursework including a portfolio of practical work to include a related study of a minimum of 1000 words. 60% of the total.

Externally set task, examined in 15 hours. 40% of the total.

Career pathways

Study art related degree courses at higher education.

Employment opportunities: architecture, fashion design, art therapist, illustrator, print maker, jewellery designer, interior designer, graphic designer, textile designer, museum curator.

Entry criteria

Minimum of five 5 to 9 grades at GCSE, including at least grade 6 in GCSE Art.

A portfolio of work may further support your application.

What is the course about?

Biology covers a wide range of topics, from investigating the molecular and cellular functioning of living organisms to the interactions between populations and whole communities of animals and plants.

Students will gain a strong understanding of biological concepts but also develop the skills to describe, explain, predict and analyse the biotic and abiotic factors which influence the world.

Course content

Students study topics including:

- Biological molecules, DNA, cells and the immune system exchange and transport, genes, genetic diversity and biodiversity.
- Detailed study of photosynthesis, respiration, energy transfer in ecosystems.
- In-depth analysis of inheritance, gene expression and the development and application of gene technology.
- Homeostasis, muscles, the nervous system, and whole organism biology including taxis, population biology and ecosystem ecology

There is an important focus on developing practical skills with students needing to complete a series of 12 required practicals and a residential field course.

Assessment

Three terminal examinations.

Successful completion of a series of practical activities will lead to the student being awarded a practical endorsement to the A Level.

Career pathways

Study biology or science related degree courses at higher education.

Employment opportunities: agriculture, ecology, zoology, plant sciences, biotechnology, food science, and marine biology, research into cancer cures, or conservation of endangered animals.

Entry criteria

Minimum of five 5 to 9 grades at GCSE, including at least 6-6 in Combined Science.

What is the course about?

This course is designed to answer questions about the basic and complex make up of our known universe and the world we live in, the concept that we are all matter made from stars and when broken down in to their elements can be studied to develop an in-depth knowledge and recognition of patterns that can be applied to everyday life. The course allows students the opportunity to explore the nature of the periodic table whilst beginning to understand the three major disciplines that make up foundation chemistry. They are physical, organic and inorganic chemistry, all three of which have major applications in industry and academia. Chemistry students become confident in describing the natural and modern world around them through the understanding and explanation of the subject.

Course content

Students study topics including:

- Organic, inorganic and physical chemistry
- Bonding, structure, kinetics, basic spectroscopy and energetics
- Exploring chemistry of polymers, proteins, further energetics, electrochemistry, spectroscopy, acids and bases and transition metals

Assessment

Three terminal examinations.

Successful completion of a series of practical activities will lead to the student being awarded a practical endorsement to the A Level.

Career pathways

Study chemistry or science related degree courses at higher education.

Employment opportunities: agrochemical, biochemical, pharmaceuticals, engineering, nursing, medicinal chemistry, medicine, academics.

Entry criteria

Minimum of five 5 to 9 grades at GCSE and at least 6-6 in Combined Science.

CRIMINOLOGY

APPLIED DIPLOMA (EQUIVALENT TO 1 A LEVEL)

What is the course about?

Within this course, students will study topics on understanding different types of crime, influences on perceptions of crime and why some crimes are unreported. They will also study many aspects of the criminal justice system.

Course content

Topics include:

- Changing awareness of crime
- Criminological theories
- Crime scene to courtroom
- Crime and punishment

Assessment

The course is divided into four units, each assessed.

Units 1 and 3 are internally assessed.

Units 2 and 4 are examined through an external written paper.

There are opportunities for assessment in January and June of each year.

Career pathways

Study criminology, psychology or sociology related degree courses at higher education.

Employment opportunities: police, prison or probation services, social work, youth work, forensics, law, solicitor, paralegal, etc.

Entry criteria

Minimum of five 5 to 9 grades at GCSE.

What is the course about?

English Language provides students with the chance to comprehensively study a variety of different writing styles and techniques, as well as offering you the chance to develop your own writing skills.

The English Language A Level enables students to explore how language is used, develops and helps create identity, how language is used differently based on gender, age or sexuality. Accents and dialects are also explored examining attitudes to spoken language. Other aspects of language such as child language development and language change are also studied. For example, how did we move from the language of Shakespeare to new additions to the dictionary such as 'whatevs' and 'sumfin'?

Course content

Topics include:

- Language, the individual and society
- Children's language development
- Spoken, written or multimodal language
- Language diversity and change:
- Language to present ideas, attitudes and opinions

Assessment

Two terminal examinations worth 80% of the A Level.

Non-exam assessment worth 20%.

Career pathways

Study an English-related degree courses at higher education.

Employment opportunities: advertising copywriter, arts administrator, editor, writer, media advisor, librarian, lawyer, human resources.

Entry criteria

Minimum of five 5 to 9 grades at GCSE including at least grade 6 in English Language.

ENGLISH LITERATURE

A LEVEL

What is the course about?

Taking English Literature is a perfect choice for any student with a passion for reading widely, be it poetry, plays or prose. English Literature will provide students with the chance to comprehensively study a wide range of texts from various authors around the world, both modern and historic in context.

Course content

Studies include:

- Literary genres
- Different literary texts (drama, poetry and prose)
- Critical anthology (highlighting the ideas of Marxism and feminism)
- Texts and genres
- Shakespeare text

Assessment

Two terminal examinations worth 80% of the A Level.

Non-exam assessment worth 20%.

Career pathways

Study an English-related degree courses at higher education.

Employment opportunities : advertising copywriter, arts administrator, editor, writer, media advisor, librarian, lawyer, human resources.

Entry criteria

Minimum of five 5 to 9 grades at GCSE, including grade 6 in GCSE English Literature.

What is the course about?

Environmental Science is a highly relevant A Level for anyone interested in the environmental concerns of our time. It covers many aspects of the environment from climate change to water quality.

Students who enjoy a multi-disciplinary approach to learning and have a keen interest in the sustainability of our planet will find this course engaging and thought provoking. Key topics include the biophysical environment, energy resources, pollution and sustainability. With opportunities to include real life case studies, this contemporary qualification has never been more relevant.

This is a great accompaniment to A Levels in geography, sciences and maths and develops key skills including communication, teamwork and critical thinking.

Course content

Students study topics including:

- The living and physical environments.
- Detailed study of energy resources and pollution.
- In-depth analysis of biological resources and sustainability.
- Key skill development in research methods.

There is an important focus on working scientifically with opportunities for skills development and independent thinking; skills related to the methodologies and sampling techniques that students must gain through first-hand experience and skills related to research methods that can be gained through class-based and/or practical activities.

Assessment

Two terminal examinations.

Career pathways

Study environmental science, biology or geography related degree courses at higher education. High level apprenticeships in relevant sectors (e.g. conservation, the water sector).

Employment opportunities: environmental scientist, environmental law, zoologist, marine biologist, conservation, scientist, hydrologist, environmental engineer.

Entry criteria

Minimum of five 5 to 9 grades at GCSE, including grade 6 in Biology or Geography.

What is the course about?

This course allows students to develop their knowledge and understanding of themes relating to the culture and society of countries where French is spoken, and their language skills. They will do this by using authentic spoken and written sources in French.

Course content

Topics to be studied include:

- French social issues and trends
- French artistic culture
- French political issues
- Specific topic areas of cinema and literature
- In-depth study of a text and a film

Assessment

Three terminal examinations including listening, reading, writing and speaking.

Career pathways

Study language-related degree courses at higher education.

Employment opportunities: interpreter, teacher, translator, journalist, international aid worker, tourism.

Entry criteria

Minimum of five 5 to 9 grades at GCSE, including at least a grade 6 in GCSE French.

What is the course about?

This course is for students with an interest in issues affecting people and places where they live and how places are changing. The hazards facing the planet and people are also studied. Students will study current events and world problems, such as the effects of natural hazards, global warming, migration and the plight of refugees.

Course content

There are four areas of study over the two years:

- Dynamic landscapes – including tectonic hazards and coastal landscapes
- Dynamic places – including globalisation and regenerating places
- Physical systems and sustainability - including water and energy insecurity
- Human systems and geopolitics – including superpowers and migration identity and sovereignty

There are also exciting field trip opportunities to Swanage in Dorset and an extended trip to Iceland.

Assessment

Three terminal examinations form 80% of the total.

Non-exam assessment worth 20% in the form of an Independent Investigation based on field work.

Career pathways

Study geography, geology or environmental related degree courses at higher education.

Employment opportunities: management, leisure, administration, travel, business, tourism, environmental management, urban or land use planning, hazard management and planning.

Entry criteria

Minimum of five 5 to 9 grades at GCSE, including at least grade 6 in GCSE Geography.

What is the course about?

Students will study significant individuals, societies, events and developments within a broad historical context. Investigating specific historical questions, problems or issues. Students will also analyse and evaluate how the past has been interpreted and represented in different ways.

Course content

Study of the following will be included:

- Democracy and Nazism: Germany 1918-1945 – depth study
- Race and American society 1865-1965 – independent study
- The Tudors: England 1485-1603 – breadth study

Assessment

Two terminal examinations form 80% of the total.

Non-exam assessment worth 20%.

Career pathways

Study history-related degree courses at higher education.

Employment opportunities: journalism, law, publishing, the media, archaeology, museum, teaching and archive work.

Entry criteria

Minimum of five 5 to 9 grades at GCSE, including at least a grade 6 in History.

What is the course about?

A Level Mathematics gives students the opportunity to study topics such as geometry, calculus and trigonometry (pure mathematics) and to use these ideas within the 'applied' topics such as mechanics and statistics.

Course content

- **Pure Mathematics**
 - mathematical argument, problem solving, proof, algebra, graphs, sequences, logarithms, trigonometry, calculus, functions, numerical methods, vectors and differential equations
- **Statistics** – working with a large data set to make inferences about the underlying population, probability calculations, using the Binomial and Normal distributions and statistical hypothesis testing
- **Mechanics** – kinematics, working with forces and Newton's laws, motion under gravity, friction, projectiles and simple moments

Assessment

Three terminal examinations.

Career pathways

Study maths, engineering, physics related degree courses at higher education.

Employment opportunities: analyst, actuary, accountancy, scientist, statistician, systems developer.

Entry criteria

Minimum of five 5 to 9 grades at GCSE, including at least grade 6 GCSE in Mathematics.

FURTHER MATHEMATICS

A LEVEL

What is the course about?

Further Mathematics should be considered as an addition to Mathematics A Level. There is a misconception that Further Mathematics A Level is harder than A Level Mathematics, but generally that is not the case. This course is perfect for students particularly interested in mathematics or physics and love a challenge.

Course content

- **Core pure mathematics** – proof, complex numbers, matrices, further algebra and functions, further calculus, further vectors, polar coordinates, differential equations and hyperbolic functions
- **Optional units** including mechanics, decisions and further pure Mathematics

Assessment

Four terminal examinations.

Career pathways

Study a degree course with a mathematics content, e.g. mathematics, statistics, physics, engineering, computer science.

Employment opportunities: mathematics in security – working to keep one step ahead of the hackers!, mathematics in telecommunication and the internet – traffic jams on the information superhighway, mathematics in the environment – better weather forecasting, better conservation management, mathematics of finance and economics – buy! Sell! Mathematics on the stock market, when to take a risk?

Entry criteria

Minimum of five 5 to 9 grades at GCSE, including grade 7 in GCSE Mathematics and you must also be studying Mathematics A Level.

What is the course about?

This course is for students interested in the rapidly developing world of media, in an ever changing contemporary world. We are surrounded by media every day and cannot avoid it. From moving image to broadcast, print and new digital media, we have access to media at all times and are increasingly reliant upon it. The A Level course is constructed to include elements of practical media production and theoretical analysis, which will provide insights into this ever-changing contemporary landscape.

Course content

Topics include:

- Media representation – the ways in which people, places and events are presented within different media products, and how this communicates meaning.
- Media language – concerning how the different aspects and conventions of a variety of media products convey meaning.
- Media audience – how and why audiences may interpret aspects of media products in different ways and how these interpretations can inform production.
- Media industry – how and why media products are created, including budgets, pre-production, production and manufacture.

Assessment

Two terminal assessments worth 70% of the total.

Non-assessment worth 30%.

Career pathways

Study media studies, media and communication, and other media related courses at University.

Employment opportunities: journalism, marketing, film making, banking, law, publishing, broadcasting, media production, TV, video and multimedia, game development, website development etc.

Entry criteria

Minimum of five 5 – 9 grades at GCSE, including English.

What is the course about?

A Level Music will provide a contemporary, accessible and creative education in music with an integrated approach to the three main elements – performing, composing, and appraising.

Learners are encouraged to be creative and to broaden their musical horizons and understanding with areas of study that inspire and challenge. This specification will enable learners to explore performance and composition in greater detail and allow them to choose a specialism in performance or composition. Through the various genres, styles, and eras contained in our areas of study they will explore musical context, musical language, and performance and composition skills.

A Level Music has options and pathways designed to appeal to, and cater for, a wide range of interests, instruments, personalities and directions.

Course content

Recital minimum of six minutes and two contrasting pieces. Choice of:

- Solo piece(s) on one or more instruments or voice
- Ensemble performance (including accompanying)
- Realisation using music technology

Compositions with a combined duration of at least eight minutes:

- One to a brief set by OCR
- One to a brief written by the learner
- Three short technical exercises

Listening and appraising

- Analysing and evaluating music
- Familiar and unfamiliar pieces
- Prescribed works
- Questions based on aural extracts

Assessment

Recital and compositions are marked internally.

One listening exam that is marked externally.

Career pathways

Music-related: Study all music related degree courses at high education.

Employment opportunities: Sound technician, community musician, music therapist, teacher, or work in film, television, theatre, radio, arts administration, or creative education.

Entry criteria

Minimum of five grade 5 to 9 grades at GCSE including at least a grade 6 in Music.

What is the course about?

This course aims to develop the creative photographer. Students will learn technical skills and how to use camera to control contrast, exposure and focus. They will study photographers – both modern and historical.

Course content

The study of photography through:

- Shape and texture
- Contextual study
- Personal response
- Externally set assignment

Assessment

Coursework including a portfolio of practical work to include a related study of a minimum of 1000 words. 60% of the total.

Externally set task, examined in 15 hours. 40% of the total.

Career pathways

Study a design-based related degree courses at higher education.

Employment opportunities: graphic designer, magazine photographer, medical illustrator, photographer, journalism, television camera operator.

Entry criteria

Minimum of five 5 to 9 grades at GCSE, including at least grade 6 in GCSE Art or Photography.

A portfolio of work may further support your application.

What is the course about?

This course will provide an insight into sports performance. Students will have the opportunity to perform or coach a sport but 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.

Course content

The course encompasses topics such as:

- Exercise physiology
- Applied anatomy and physiology
- Biomechanics
- Skill acquisition
- Sports psychology
- Sport and society
- Contemporary issues in physical activity and sport

Assessment

Three terminal examinations totalling 70%.

Non-exam assessment in the performance or coaching of one practical activity and the evaluation and analysis of performance for improvement worth 30%.

Career pathways

Study sport and health related degree courses at higher education.

Employment opportunities: teaching, coaching, the leisure industry, recreational management, the health and fitness industry and professional sport.

Entry criteria

Minimum of five 5 to 9 grades at GCSE including at least a grade 6 in GCSE Science/PE or biology and actively engaged in sporting performance or coaching at club level.

What is the course about?

Physics encompasses the study of the universe from the largest galaxies to the smallest subatomic particles. Physics is crucial to understanding the world around us, the world inside us, and the world beyond us. It is the most basic and fundamental science. By studying physics students learn the basis of many other sciences, including chemistry, oceanography, seismology, and astronomy.

Course content

Students study topics including:

- Matter and antimatter, discovering how quarks and antiquarks combine and interact, researching up to the minute discoveries from cern, and other particle accelerators
- The consideration of whether particles can also be waves, investigating the interference patterns, and properties of waves
- Electricity and mechanics
- The mechanics of particles in gases and interactions between charged particles
- Nuclear physics,
- Optional topic of astrophysics, electronics, engineering or turning points in physics

There is an important focus on developing practical skills with students needing to complete a series of 12 required practicals.

Assessment

Three terminal exams.

Successful completion of a series of practical activities will lead to the student being awarded a practical endorsement to the A Level.

Career pathways

Study physics, maths or science related degree courses at higher education.

Employment opportunities: engineering, electronics, astrophysics, particle physics, medical physics, biomechanics and nuclear physics. Research into solving the energy crisis, or discovering what atoms are made of using particle accelerators.

Entry criteria

You have a minimum of Level 6-6 at GCSE for Science and 6 for GCSE Mathematics (also preferably taking A Level Mathematics).

What is the course about?

Students will study the political systems of the United Kingdom and the United States. In addition to learning about the political institutions of these countries, students will also be learning about political ideas such as conservatism, liberalism and socialism as well as the beliefs of political thinkers like Marcus Garvey, Rosa Luxemburg and John Locke.

Course content

Students study topics including:

- Government of the UK, including the British Constitution, role of Parliament, the Prime Minister and Cabinet.
- The politics of the UK including democracy, elections and referendums, political parties and pressure groups.
- The government and politics of the USA, including the constitution, role of Congress, the President, electoral process, political parties and pressure groups.
- Political ideas including liberalism, conservatism and socialism.

Assessment

Three terminal examinations.

Career pathways

Study political, law or history related degree courses at higher education.

Employment opportunities: politics, journalism, law, management or Civil Service.

Entry criteria

Minimum of five 5-9 grades at GCSE, including at least a 6 in English.

What is the course about?

A Level Psychology involves studying a wide range of topics exploring the fascinating human mind. Psychology looks at the varying ways people think, behave and interact with others. We seek to understand why certain behaviours occur and the science that underpins the theories. Through investigations we discover how researchers conduct their studies, how they collect and analyse data and how their findings can be applied to 'real life'.

Course content

There are six 'core' topics which we will explore:

- Social influence
- Memory
- Attachment
- Psychopathology
- Approaches in psychology
- Research methods

Assessment

Three terminal examinations.

Career pathways

Students who study A Level Psychology often progress onto degrees such as psychology, English studies, sociology, business studies, teaching, sport and exercise science and law.

Employment opportunities include forensic psychology, clinical psychology, occupational therapy, nursing, teaching, social work, counsellor, educational psychologist and many more.

Entry criteria

Minimum of five 5 to 9 grades at GCSE including at least grade 6 in Maths.

What is the course about?

This course allows students to develop their knowledge and understanding of themes relating to the culture and society of countries where Spanish is spoken, and their language skills. They will do this by using authentic spoken and written sources in Spanish.

Course content

Topics to be studied include:

- Aspects of Hispanic society social
- Artistic culture in the Hispanic work
- Multiculturalism in Hispanic society
- Aspects of political life in Hispanic society
- Specific topic areas of cinema and literature
- In-depth study of a literary text and a film

Assessment

Three terminal examinations including listening, reading, writing and speaking.

Career pathways

Students who study A Level Spanish can progress onto language-related degree courses in higher education.

Employment opportunities: interpreter, teacher, translator, journalist, international aid worker, tourism.

Entry criteria

Minimum of five 5 to 9 grades at GCSE, including at least a grade 6 in GCSE Spanish.

What is the course about?

This is an exciting new course that complements and supports core subject choices as well as providing life and employability skills. The course allows you to study Mathematics at Level 3 without having to commit to an entire A level, the course gives you the same number of UCAS points as an AS level and is highly regarded by universities and future employers. The course focuses on applied mathematics with no algebra or trigonometry.

Course content

- Financial mathematics
- Modelling
- Probabilities
- Risk analysis
- Cost benefit analysis

Assessment

The course lasts one year and is assessed in two external examinations in the summer, both 90 minutes long. Both examinations have preliminary material that is released in March where real-life examples of data and information are given to students that are then used as the basis of questions in the examination.

Career pathways

Mathematics for Life helps to develop mathematical skills and thinking and will support courses such as A level Sciences and Geography as well as technical and vocational qualifications, such as Business Studies and ICT. The skills gained in this qualification will strengthen any future study or employment application.

Entry criteria

Grade 5 or above in GCSE Mathematics.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

November 2023

Our application procedure opens from 23rd November. The application form is accessed from the website:

www.hphigh.co.uk.

December 2023

We advise students to complete their application forms by Monday 11th December 2023 to have their choices included in the setting of option blocks. In addition, students can focus solely on their GCSEs and not have to worry about applying for our sixth form.

January to March 2024

Students will be invited to attend a interview and following, receive a conditional offer.

April 2024

Deadline for applications.

Summer 2024

GCSE final examination period.

July 2024

Holmleigh Park Sixth Form induction days.

August 2024

Following receipt of GCSE results, students enrol into the Sixth Form.

If you have any enquiries, or would like a tour of the school, please contact sixthform@hphigh.co.uk or by telephone 01452 393760.

Can I still apply even if I've missed the application deadline?

Yes. Please send the form back as soon as possible so your details can be added to our system.

What happens if I'm unable to attend my enrolment day?

If you do not attend your enrolment day then we cannot guarantee we'll be able to hold your place. Please email sixthform@hphigh.co.uk to discuss.

My grades are lower than expected, can I still join Holmleigh Park Sixth Form?

We will discuss this with you on your enrolment day. It will depend on how low your grades are and what spaces we have available.

I'm new to Holmleigh Park Sixth Form, can I have a tour?

Yes - to arrange a tour, please email sixthform@hphigh.co.uk.

I want to change a subject choice on my application form?

Final decisions on your subject choices are made when you enrol with us in August.

You do not need to notify us unless you're changing a subject choice after you've enrolled with us in August.

How can I stay in touch with updates on the application procedure?

We recommend you check our website and twitter account regularly for updates:

Website – www.hphigh.co.uk

Twitter – [@HPSixth](https://twitter.com/HPSixth)



HOW TO APPLY

Thank you for your
interest in applying to
Holmleigh Park
Sixth Form.

For more information on subject
choices, and how to apply, please
visit www.hphigh.co.uk

For further details, please contact
our Sixth Form team.

HOLMLEIGH PARK SIXTH FORM



Holmleigh Road
Tuffley
Gloucestershire
GL4 0RT



01452 393760



sixthform@hphigh.co.uk



www.hphigh.co.uk

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