



Cranbrook
School

CRANBROOK SCHOOL SIXTH FORM

A LEVELS COURSE GUIDE

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Thank you for your interest in Cranbrook School. I am proud to welcome you to our fantastic Sixth Form community. Cranbrook School and Cranbrook School Sixth-Form achieved a Good rating from Ofsted in our last inspection. We are proud that we have consistently maintained high academic standards whilst emphasising a full rounded education with an extensive programme of activities and enrichment. As well as high grades (70% at A* to B in 2019, 70% in 2020 and 83% in 2021, 70% in 2022), our A level results place us at the very highest level of 'value added' progress. Most of our students go on to Russell Group Universities' and we have a high number entering Oxbridge and medicine. We value all our students as individuals and support them through our pastoral and House system. We also have an outstanding SEN department, medical centre and counselling service (Place2Be). Most of all, Cranbrook is a strong community which allows young people to develop and flourish.

Cranbrook School A level Course Guide

To help students to choose their courses for 2023 we have produced 'The A level Course Guide'. Hopefully it will answer most of your questions, but my contact details are on the front cover, so please do not hesitate to get in touch should you need any help at all.

Application Process

- **Existing Cranbrook Students**

Existing students will receive a form from Mr Chris Johnson and DO NOT need to apply through Kent Choices or our own Admissions Office.

- **External Students**

All external students should complete the online application form. Admissions open on Tuesday 1st November and close on Friday 16th December 2022.

A Level Structure 2023

Most students choose three subjects to study in Year 12; you may only choose a fourth if you are likely to achieve a total of at least 75 points or more in your GCSEs. Students may switch from one subject to another within the first 6 weeks of Year 12 if they have a change of mind. The normal requirement from universities is for three good A level grades.

On the Application Form please put 1) to 3) for your first three choices and add a 4) if you wish to follow four A levels in Year 12, It is also possible to opt to take an EPQ (explained later in this booklet).

A levels are now linear courses with exams taken at the end of the two-year course. AS exams are not now linked with the A level and they act as a separate qualification. Students at Cranbrook School may choose to take AS exams at the end of Year 12, but this is now very rare and our recommendation is only to take an AS if you are likely to achieve a good grade.

All students are expected to add to their profile by joining clubs, societies and activities at Cranbrook and by participating in voluntary work. There is a huge amount on offer and each student should choose according to their own interests. You are also encouraged to participate in work experience, particularly where it links to university and career aspirations.

Choosing Where to Study

Choosing your place of study for the next two years, as well as what to study, is an important decision, which will affect the rest of your life. Some questions you should be asking yourself are:

Does the institution offer the subjects I want to do?

What are the results like?

What support will I get during the course?

What else does the institution offer outside of academic life?
Will I be stretched, challenged, supported and encouraged?
What support will I get to move me on to the next stage in my career?

Hopefully you have found out as much about Cranbrook Sixth Form as possible. If you are not in Cranbrook School Year 11, make sure you come to an open day and get a tour around the school. This Sixth Form Course Guide, alongside our open days, should provide the flavour of Sixth Form life at Cranbrook School and the experience and opportunities that are available in this unique school. If the information you need is not in this Sixth Form brochure, then do ask.

Academic Entry Criteria and Application Procedure

Please see the school website for the full entry criteria, including the catchment area for day students.

- a. Applications must be made by the 16th December 2022 and must include the candidate's predicted grades at GCSE or equivalent;
- b. Candidates must study a minimum of 3 subjects in Year 12 as well as the Cranbrook Diploma;
- c. Those candidates who have studied 9 or fewer subjects at GCSE must achieve a minimum of 45 points at GCSE, or the equivalent for candidates overseas. Those candidates who have studied 10 or more subjects must achieve a minimum of 48 points, or the equivalent for candidates overseas:
 - Points will be on a 1-9-point scale, where Grade 1=1 and 2=2 etc.
 - At least a Grade 6 at GCSE in the subject chosen for A level (or its nearest equivalent).
 - At least a Grade 8 at GCSE Maths to study Further Maths at A level.
 - At least a Grade 4 in English and Maths at GCSE.
- d. Candidates will be prioritised in order of their predicted GCSE (or equivalent) total points score.
- e. Candidates applying outside of their chronological age group will be considered on an individual case basis by the Governors' Admissions Committee.

Offers are made on the basis that the minimum predicted grades are achieved in the GCSE exams prior to entry.

Other qualifications will be considered appropriately.

Unless specified in the subject descriptions, to study an A-level subject a student must always have a minimum of a **Level 6 at GCSE** in that subject (or equivalent). However, as there is a large jump from GCSE level study to A level and some students who achieve a Level 6 at GCSE may still find the A level difficult, we would encourage students to aim for higher than a grade 6 in their chosen subjects.

The Cranbrook Diploma

We believe we are a uniquely enriching school with an expansive co-curricular life that is a real strength of Cranbrook School. We have tried to capture this true essence of Cranbrook School by developing an additional diploma that all Year 12 students will complete. It is built around a series of challenges which recognise both academic achievements and co-curricular involvement. These challenges also are extremely helpful for our students when applying for universities and careers. This school is unique and students who fully buy into our ethos deserve to be recognised. An outline of the Diploma is shown below.

To be awarded the Cranbrook Sixth Form Diploma at Pass or Distinction Level you must achieve each of the following conditions:

1. A levels
Achieve three A levels.
2. Independent Study
Complete either an
 - a) EPQ
OR
 - b) Independent Research Project (approx. 1000 words) ideally linked to your university application or career aspiration.

3. Work Experience

Organise and take part in a period of work experience during Year 12 or Year 13 that is ideally (but not exclusively) linked to your university/career aspirations.

4. Service to Others/Activities

- a) Take part for a minimum of one term, in a school scheme that provides a service to others AND
- b) Take part in activities at school (for two terms or equivalent) e.g. sports teams, attending clubs/societies, participating in creative arts events of any kind. There is flexibility with the requirement for these activities in school if students take part in a longer period of service to others or for exceptional activities outside of school. Ask for clarification if needed.

5. Presentation

Organise and conduct a formal presentation on a topic of your choice, to your tutor group/House (this could be linked to your independent study above).

Enrichment Qualifications

In addition to A level courses, Cranbrook offers a number of additional qualifications and courses as part of the Year 12 General Studies Programme. These include the following:

- **Extended Project Qualification** – this AS course is explained under the subject detail pages later in the booklet
- **Young Sports Leadership Award** – a training programme and practical experience leading to this national qualification in Sports Coaching
- **Mentoring** – a training programme leading to a qualification and opportunity to become a school mentor with younger children
- **Student Listener** – a training course leading to the chance to become a Cranbrook online peer counsellor
- **Finance Courses** – a course to develop the knowledge and understanding about finance and money in the modern world for young adults
- **Defibrillator and First Aid Courses** – short courses to develop important knowledge and skills

Co-Curricular, Clubs and Volunteering

All Sixth Formers are encouraged to take part in the numerous activities at Cranbrook School. There is an extensive sporting programme, with team fixtures on most Saturday's. The major sports are, for boys - rugby, hockey, cricket, basketball, and for girls - hockey, netball, rounders basketball and cricket. There are also opportunities for swimming, tennis, dance and athletics. All students have two periods of Games or Service time on a Wednesday afternoon where they may elect to either practice a sport or sign up to a service option including helping out at the local primary school, engaging in elderly care and working with younger students on active or creativity projects.

In addition to sport, there are many other activities on offer, including Combined Cadet Force, Duke of Edinburgh Award, music ensembles (orchestra, choirs, strings, jazz and brass), drama productions, robotics, amnesty, debating, chess, philosophy, psychology, current affairs, art, coding, eco-schools, charities, newsletter, finance and investment, dissection, medical society, debating, Warhammer, robotics, dance, football, book club, Fem Soc, Wall Street, conspiracy club, Queen's Hall tech team, finance, Eco Schools, Amnesty and psychology.

Cranbrook organises major international sports tours (Holland in 2022) and international trekking and community expeditions (Morocco 2023). Sports tours and expeditions are increasingly being introduced in the wake of the pandemic.

Cranbrook Sixth Formers are encouraged to volunteer to help with a variety of schemes and projects, which include helping in local Primary Schools, our elderly support programme, organising activities for

Junior Year Groups, SEN mentors, House mentors, Student Listeners and many small and large charity events including the Charity Walk in September when the whole school walks from Scotney to Cranbrook, raising over £20,000 for international, national and local charities.

There is something here for everybody. We aim for our sixth-formers to find activities which they enjoy and where they can develop their own self-esteem and social skills.

In Year 12 we want the students to ‘engage with’, ‘join in’ and ‘contribute to’

In Year 13 we want the students to ‘take responsibility’, ‘serve others’ and ‘become leaders’

Leadership opportunities in Year 13 are numerous and include:

- Senior Four – Four students who lead the school, two day students and two boarding.
- House Captains (13)
- School Prefects – split into five groups: Diversity and Inclusion, Events, Charity, Service and Outreach, The Sixth Form Centre Environment
- Department Prefects – Head of Departments appoint up to a few prefects in Year 13 to help in their departments (around 30)
- Year 7 Prefects – a group of about 12 who help look after the Year 7 students
- Student Listeners – A group of about 15-20 students that are given training to help students who seek private help for personal concerns on an online platform
- Organising and running school clubs and societies – there are many opportunities here for running lower school clubs at break, lunchtime and after school
- House responsibilities – (around 50) each House has a number of posts including Deputy House Captain, Sports Reps, Social Reps, Charity Reps and mentors for junior students
- CCF NCOs – senior cadets in both the Army and RAF Sections
- Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award – the service section can involve helping to lead younger participants at Bronze level
- Primary Schools Support and Elderly Support Programmes

The Sixth Form Community

Cranbrook Sixth Form is not just a place to study, but a very friendly community. The new Sixth Form Centre is one of the best facilities of its type in the Country and it has excellent space for silent private work and social areas. Social events are organised, such as “music nights” and charity events.

Pastoral Support

Each sixth-former will be a member of a tutor group in one of our four day houses or five boarding houses. The tutor oversees the academic progress and wellbeing of their tutees and helps with any problems or issues that arise. The tutor will also be instrumental in assisting with university applications in Year 13. The House system is hugely valued at Cranbrook as each provides a sense of belonging and identity within the school. Houses organise a number of events during the year and there is also an extensive series of House competitions.

The Structure of the Week

In addition to lessons for each timetabled A level subjects, students will have:

- Two Games or Service periods each Wednesday afternoon
- One weekly year group session that is used for personal development, outside speakers, talks on UCAS and careers processes, student led presentations and more.
- One fortnightly PSHE lesson

- Supervised study periods to encourage students to build time into their week for homework and revision and to create good routines. (students struggling to organise their independent learning can be supported with additional supervised time).
- 1 Enrichment lesson where they may pick up one of the courses listed above including the EPQ.
- A daily tutor period which is used for pastoral support, assemblies and delivery of notices.
- Some free time where they can work in small groups or simply catch up with friends.

Students will then fit in the remainder of their work according to their own preferences and other commitments such as sport, clubs and activities. At Cranbrook, we suggest each student studies six hours per week per subject outside of lessons and support on suitable activities to fill this time will be provided by staff.

CUSP – Competitive Universities Study Programme

This is a programme starting early in Year 12, run by Mrs Corney, for Year 12s mostly with high GCSE grades aiming for academic excellence at A level and for places at academically competitive university courses. The programme involves additional study, peer support and some opportunities run by the top universities. In Year 13 the group naturally evolves into Oxbridge/Medic etc. university application preparation. The group meets once a fortnight to start with, with meetings becoming more frequent later in the year.

Choosing Your Subjects

The general rule of thumb is:

Do the subjects that you enjoy most and that you are good at.

Too many students (or their parents!) choose the career first and then the subjects. It is true that you should be looking at careers and what is required to move into them, but if you hate Biology you will not enjoy being a medic! Doing the subjects you love will mean that you will work hard at them and this should lead towards a career you enjoy. You should make your own choices and not base your decisions on what friends are planning. Once again, ask yourself some questions:

What are my strengths?

What do I enjoy doing?

What subjects do I most enjoy?

Do I need particular subjects?

How can I keep my options open?

Do the subjects I have chosen go well together?

There are some subjects that support each other well. If you are doing a Science, particularly Physics, then Mathematics supports this well and vice-versa. Similarly, many of the humanities support each other and both Mathematics and English support Economics. Don't be afraid of doing a mixture. The addition of a creative subject or a language adds breadth to the programme, which is to be encouraged. Talk to the subject specialists to find out more about A level combinations.

It is important to get advice when choosing your combination. If two of your subjects are too closely related, i.e. there is a big overlap between two subjects, then Universities may treat them as one and a half subjects rather than two separate ones. For this reason, it is not possible to do History (Early Modern) with History (Later Modern).

A good link which provides information on choosing the right subjects is the Russell Group's 'Informed Choices'. It really is a good read and can be found here - www.russellgroup.ac.uk/for-students/school-and-college-in-the-uk/subject-choices-at-school-and-college

What do our Prefects think about their courses?

"A level Maths and Further Maths allow you to fully explore the academic world. I feel like I can have a great future being challenged in a subject that is a key component in human lives." **Cornwallis Prefect, applying to study Maths at Cambridge.**

"Studying Art has allowed an incredible freedom of expression that I didn't have at GCSE" **Webster Prefect, applying to study Art at Oxford.**

"Through Physics, I now understand why seemingly simple things in everyday life happen." **Boarding Prefect**

"Chemistry enables me to understand more about why things happen in the world and gives me a deeper understanding of human life." **Boarding Prefect applying to study Chemistry at Cambridge.**

"History gives you the opportunity to study the past in more detail. The scope of debate means that the classroom comes alive with ideas and learning all of a sudden takes a very different dimension." **Head Boy, applying to study History at Durham.**

"I love studying Classical Civilisation because it's such a good mixture of history, politics and literature – and it's quite rude in places." **Rammell House Captain**

"Geography is a great subject, because it is about the world you live in. It is always interesting and relevant. The field trip was really enjoyable." **House Captain**

"Biology gives us a great understanding of what we are and our natural world." **Biology Prefect**

"Economics is the easiest subject to get interested in. It is just so relevant." **Crowden House Captain.**

"Drama is both a challenge and an enjoyable release from other stress! There is nothing more exciting than performing!" **House Captain.**

"I find Spanish language and culture so interesting. It is one of those subjects that are going to be so useful later in life." **House Captain.**

"In any profession that you do later in life, fluency in language will open a multitude of doors." **Allan Prefect**

"In English, you get to study books from a range of periods which allows you to learn detailed analytical skills that set you up perfectly for so many future careers. It is a highly valued subject." **Law Applicant**

"Psychology is so much more than I was expecting - fascinating" **House Prefect.**

"Classics is such a different subject to anything I have ever studied before. It is so interesting and covers such a large range of stimulating and academic topics!" **Aspiring Lawyer**

"With Politics, I actually know everything about the current affairs around me." **Boarding Prefect**

"Classical Civilisation helps to give me a new perspective on 21st century society by learning about the roots of western civilisation." **Allan House Captain**

Art

Head of Department	Mr J Kenny kennyj@cranbrook.kent.sch.uk	
Exam Board	Edexcel	
Course Name	GCE: Fine Art	Course Number: 9FA0

Course intent and outline content:

The Art course has become a well-established and highly regarded course at Cranbrook. Students' progress through Year 12 and 13 developing their skills across a wide range of different media. The course has been deliberately designed to challenge students' perceptions of Art in its broadest sense and to build their confidence as an Artist. The course is research based, meaning that students are expected to gain a high level of understanding of each artist they explore throughout. There are no restrictions on what students can explore as a theme. The aim is for students to respond in a highly personal way and to be secure in their research. Stimuli for students' artistic responses are gathered from independent research, which is integral to being a successful art student. Students are introduced to key practitioners, both historical and contemporary, to gain a classical understanding from which to create meaning. Workshops and gallery visits will support students' study of Art over the two years of the course. Life drawing classes are available throughout the duration of the course. Students will be shown examples of how Art can lead to further qualifications and career progression.

Component 1: Personal Investigation

60% of the total qualification

This component allows students opportunities to generate and develop ideas, research primary and contextual sources, record practical and written observations, experiment with media and processes and refine ideas towards producing personal resolved outcome(s).

Externally Set Assignment:

40% of the total qualification

This component allows students opportunities to generate and develop ideas, research primary and contextual sources, record practical and written observations, experiment with media and processes and refine ideas towards producing personal resolved outcome(s) in response to an externally set theme.

Fine Art allows students to specialise in any area of Fine Art practice – it can be a very broad subject that allows pupils to develop their own artistic practice and experiment with different media and materials. It is a subject that demands critical thinking, resourcefulness, independent research and historical and contemporary contextualisation of an individual's interests. It can be an excellent preparation for a wide range of occupations; employers are seeking candidates who are highly adaptable imaginative thinkers, possessing a wide range of higher-level thinking skills. Fine Art provides pupils the opportunity to develop creativity to think critically, solve problems, communicate well, conceptualize, make decisions, learn and reason.

Entry Qualifications	GCSE Art Level 6
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What happens when you have finished?

According to Government figures in 2017, the creative industries contributed £92bn to the UK economy and is 'growing at twice the rate of the economy'. This is testament to the strong tradition we as a nation have of innovation and creativity. There are realistic opportunities to

pursue careers in the creative industry if students wish to do so. Art supports student's ability to think creatively and solve problems imaginatively. Art is recognised by all universities and will support you in your application even if you do not intend to study art after A level.

Biology

Head of Department	Mr J Benford benfordj@cranbrook.kent.sch.uk	
Exam Board	OCR	
Course Name	GCE: Biology A	Course number: AS: H020 A2: H420

Course intent and outline content:

The Biology A level course is aimed at challenging learners and preparing them for the eventuality of becoming independent in the 'real wide world'. It is a course suitable for people who are curious about how their body works and how the world around them can influence their decisions. The aims of the course are to encourage students to:

- Develop essential knowledge and understanding of different areas of biology, including developing an interest in further study and careers in biology.
- Appreciate how society makes decisions about scientific issues and how the sciences contribute to the success of the economy and society.
- Develop and demonstrate a confidence in using a variety of practical, mathematical and problem-solving skills that will open many doors to further education or employment.

The course consists of:

AS Biology (studied in Year 12)

Module 1: **Development of practical skills**

Module 2: **Foundations in Biology**

(Cells, biological molecules, DNA, enzymes, cell membranes, cell division and cell organisation)

Module 3: **Exchange and transport**

(Transport in animals and plants, including breathing and circulation)

Module 4: **Biodiversity, evolution and disease**

(Diseases, disease prevention, biodiversity, classification and evolution)

A2 Biology (studied in Year 13)

Module 5: **Communication, Homeostasis and Energy**

(Homeostasis, excretion, nerves, hormones, animal responses, photosynthesis and respiration)

Module 6: **Control, Genomes and Environment**

(Cellular control, inheritance, genomes, cloning, biotechnology, ecosystems and sustainability)

Entry Qualifications	Level 6 in GCSE Biology or an average of Level 6 in the two Biology papers for those who sit Double Award Science.
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What happens when you have finished?

Many employers and Universities are looking for students who study Biology. It is a challenging but very rewarding course that will enhance your skills and opportunities. The range of biological subjects that you can further study is vast. It includes medical related fields, but also sports science, physiotherapy, psychology, pharmacology, agriculture, the environment, applied genetics, biochemistry and ecology. It is a very useful course that complements many other subjects including Physics, Chemistry, Physical Education, Geography and Mathematics.

Business Studies

Head of Department	Mr P Rogers rogersp@cranbrook.kent.sch.uk	
Exam Board	Edexcel	
Course Name	GCE:	Course number: 9BS0
<p>Course intent and outline content:</p> <p>A level Business is taught using a dynamic and inclusive teaching style that is designed to stretch most able while supporting the whole cohort. As an A level returning to the school following a short period of absence, Business will once again give Cranbrook students the choice between studying something more heavily theoretical, namely Economics, and something inherently more practical. The A level in Business gives students the opportunity to examine and analyse how businesses both large and small are managed in a range of contexts.</p> <p>The aims and objectives of the GCE A level in Business are to enable students to: develop an enthusiasm for studying business, gain a holistic understanding of business in a range of contexts and develop a critical understanding of organisations and their ability to meet society's needs and wants. We also consider enterprising and creative approaches to business opportunities, problems and issues faced and the ethical dilemmas and responsibilities faced by organisations and individuals. Lastly, students will acquire a range of relevant business and generic skills, including decision making, problem solving, the challenging of assumptions and critical analysis while also applying numerical skills in a range of business contexts.</p> <p>The Pearson Edexcel Level 3 Advanced GCE in Business is structured into four themes and consists of three externally examined papers. Students are encouraged to use an enquiring, critical and thoughtful approach to the study of business, to understand that business behaviour can be studied from a range of perspectives and to challenge assumptions.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 48%;"> <p>Theme 1: Marketing and people Students will develop an understanding of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • meeting customer needs • the market • marketing mix and strategy • managing people • entrepreneurs and leaders. </div> <div style="width: 48%;"> <p>Theme 2: Managing business activities Students will develop an understanding of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • raising finance • financial planning • managing finance • resource management • external influences. </div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 48%;"> <p>Theme 3: Business decisions and strategy This theme develops the concepts introduced in Theme 2;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • business objectives and strategy • business growth • decision-making techniques • influences on business decisions • assessing competitiveness • managing change. </div> <div style="width: 48%;"> <p>Theme 4: Global business This theme develops the concepts introduced in Theme 1;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • globalisation • global markets and business expansion • global marketing • global industries and companies (multinational corporations). </div> </div>		
Entry Qualifications	Level 6 in GCSE Maths and English	

What happens when you have finished?

This course could lead onto higher education or apprenticeship pathways in areas of Economics, Business Studies, Accounting, Marketing or more general higher education courses. With further training, you could open doors to careers in Economics, Business, Marketing, Finance and Accounting, human resources and public relations.

Chemistry

Head of Department	Ms C Harrison harrisonc@cranbrook.kent.sch.uk	
Exam Board	OCR (A)	
Course Name	GCE: Chemistry A	Course number: AS: H032 A2: H432
<p>Course intent and outline content:</p> <p>Chemistry A level is a flexible, content-led course and the specification is divided into broad topics covering different key concepts of chemistry. Our students will develop an understanding of physical, organic and inorganic chemistry, competence in practical skills, confidence in applying mathematical and problem-solving skills, an interest and enthusiasm for chemistry and its application in further studies and careers.</p> <p>The teaching of practical skills is integrated into theory lessons for all relevant topics and skills are assessed both through written papers (15%) and through the Practical Endorsement consisting of at least 12 required practical activities. This is a practical subject and involves a relatively high percentage of experimental work. There is a strong mathematical approach to the subject and 20% of written paper marks involve mathematical skills, number and logic.</p> <p>The course is split into 6 teaching modules. Modules 1-4 are assessed at AS level in two written exams. At A level all 6 modules are assessed in three exams and the final grade is awarded along with a pass/fail in the practical endorsement.</p> <p>Module 1 – Development of practical skills in chemistry Module 2 – Foundations in chemistry Module 3 – Periodic table and energy Module 4 – Core organic chemistry Module 5 – Physical chemistry and transition elements Module 6 – Organic chemistry and analysis</p>		
Entry Qualifications	At least a grade 6 in GCSE Chemistry or average grade 6 in the chemistry papers of double award science. Additionally, at least a grade 6 in Maths. Please be aware that in order to be sure of coping with this subject, a grade 7 is recommended.	
<p>What happens when you have finished?</p> <p>The course will help you to develop the basic skills, understanding and knowledge that many industries are looking for. A good chemist is analytical, organised, methodical and good at problem-solving. These skills are in demand across a broad range of disciplines and chemists are sought after in the world of finance, law and in management. Chemistry is often essential for degree courses such as medicine, dentistry and veterinary science, or those related to chemistry like pharmacy, pharmacology, chemical engineering and even geology. Chemistry complements a number of other subjects including Biology, Physics, Mathematics and Earth Sciences.</p>		

Classical Civilisation

Head of Department	Mrs G Warren warreng@cranbrook.kent.sch.uk	
Exam Board	OCR	
Course Name	GCE: Classical Civilisation	Course number A2: H408

You do not need to have studied Latin to study Classical Civilisation.

Why study Classics?

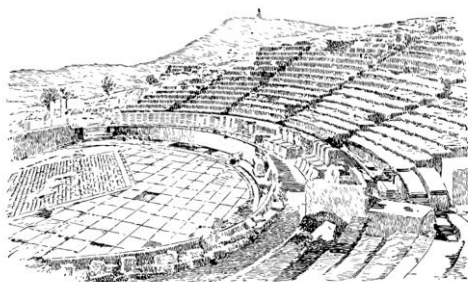
Students love Classical Civilisation because it caters to such a wide variety of different interests and disciplines – we study elements of drama, history, politics, philosophy, literature and religion.



Students also study visual and material culture (e.g.: art, vases, architecture) related to the three areas of study. Through the study of the classical world in translation, students have access to the wisdom of the ancients and develop an understanding of the roots of our own cultural practises through the drawing of comparisons between our two societies.

The World of the Hero 40%: The Odyssey and The Aeneid

This involves of Homer's *Odyssey* (Year 12) and Virgil's *Aeneid* (Year 13). The epic of Homer, with its hero, gods and exciting narrative, has been in continuous study since its conception, and remains popular today. Virgil's *Aeneid* is a cornerstone of Western literature.



Culture and the Arts (30%): Greek Theatre

Through reading two tragedies, Sophocles' *Oedipus the King* and Euripides' *Bacchae* together with Aristophanes' comedy *Frogs*, students will explore the significance of the central themes to both ancient and modern readers.

Beliefs and Ideas (30%): Love and Relationships

This component offers the opportunity for learners to recognise and relate to the passions, frustrations and delights of love in the ancient world. The ethical questions raised by these ideas are still of vital importance in the modern world and this unit will generate interesting and important discussions about love, desire, sex, sexuality and the institution of marriage. We read extracts from the famous Greek lesbian writer Sappho and the comic seduction manual of the Roman poet Ovid as well as looking at the philosophies of Plato and Seneca and examining the role of women in ancient society.

The course is all taught in English by subject specialists and students consistently achieve very good results.

The department runs overseas trips to Athens and Rome.

Entry Qualifications	A grade 5 GCSE in English. Please note that <u>NO Latin knowledge</u> is required for this course.	
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What happens when you have finished?

In 2022 the department facilitated two students to continue their classical learning in Oxbridge universities, and annually there are always a number of students going on to read classical subjects at universities.

Classical subjects are recognised for the breadth of skills they develop. A quote from Reading University's website states that: ***Classics graduates are trained in clear thinking, research skills, diligence, independence, adaptability and the ability to understand people and situations in the world at large. As such, they are eagerly sought after by employers.***

Economics

Head of Department	Mr P Rogers rogersp@cranbrook.kent.sch.uk	
Exam Board	Edexcel	
Course Name	GCE: Economics	Course number: AS: A8ECO A2: A9ECO
Course intent and outline content: A level Economics seeks to develop in its students: an understanding of the subject with strength and depth across both micro and macro theory; an understanding of economic concepts and theories through a critical consideration of current economic issues, problems and institutions that affect everyday life. Students of Economics, which is an applied science, must be able to think critically and use theory taught to analyse real world situations. They will develop an understanding of the benefits of markets and the reasons why they may fail; understand the implications of market failure for individuals, firms and government, and recognise the possibility of government failure; develop analytical and quantitative skills in selecting, interpreting and using appropriate data from a range of sources, to solve applied economic problems; build application, analysis and evaluative skills in line with the assessment and marking criteria; develop a critical approach to economic line of enquiry; understand microeconomic and macroeconomic market models; use the models to explore current economic behaviour; make causal connections; and develop an understanding of how the models shed light on the economy as a whole. More generic skills developed through the study of Economics include, resilience for coping with extended pieces of writing and applying these taught skills to a range of different source materials and question types. Students work within a 'final assessment' context of three, two-hour papers at the end of two years. Equipping students with the resilience required to write in timed conditions where time management and planning is essential.		
<div><div>Theme 1 Introduction to markets The nature of economics How markets work Market failure Government intervention</div><div>Theme 3 Business behaviour and the labour market Business growth and objectives Revenues, costs and profits Market structure The labour market</div></div> <div><div>Theme 2 The UK economy Measures of economic performance Aggregate demand Aggregate supply National income Economic growth Macroeconomic objectives and policy</div><div>Theme 4 A global perspective International economics Poverty and inequality Emerging and developing economies The financial sector Role of the state in the macroeconomy</div></div>		
Entry Qualifications	Level 6 in GCSE Maths and English	
What happens when you have finished?		

This course could lead onto higher education in areas of Economics, Business Studies, Accounting, Marketing or more general higher education courses. With further training, you could open doors to careers in Economics, Business, Marketing, Finance and Accounting, human resources and public relations. You could also go straight into a job as the GCE is a recognised qualification that could help you do a trainee management course within a company to gain the skills, understanding and experience that they require so you can progress to working at management level. Economics is the fastest growing A level in England currently and is becoming increasingly recognised and respected by Universities. It is a rigorous course of study and is ideally suited to individuals with a thirst to understand the theoretical economics construct of the world in which we live.

English Literature

Head of Department	Ms S J Eastwood eastwoods@cranbrook.kent.sch.uk	
Exam Board	Edexcel	
Course Name	GCE: English Literature	Course number: A2: 9ETO
<p>Course intent and outline content: Students of English Literature at A level will gain a series of transferable skills, including: basic writing; the ability to construct cohesive arguments in response to a range of challenging texts; the ability to view texts in their context and their reception.</p> <p>This English Literature course has been designed to give you an in-depth knowledge of the two main genres: comedy and tragedy. This is a well-planned and exciting new course that will allow you to develop your analysis and writing skills in a mature and perceptive way that will be highly beneficial for your next steps. In particular, the course aspires to help its students build transferable skills required for later life, including the ability to construct cohesive arguments that are critical and sustained; to build empathy through viewing texts within the context of the reception and production of their respective time periods, and to be confident in formulating independent viewpoints based on evaluating different opinions. Throughout this two-year course, you will become well-versed in the contextual background and literary skills of several exceptional writers, making this A level an excellent foundation for any Post-18 Literature study.</p> <p>Over two years, you will study eight texts in total (six for the exam elements and two for the coursework element):</p> <p>Component 1: Drama Students study:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One Shakespeare play and one other drama from either comedy or tragedy: <p>Tragedy: A play by William Shakespeare Comedy: A play by Oscar Wilde</p> <p>Component 2: Prose Students study:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two prose texts from a chosen theme: <i>The Supernatural</i> Compare 1 x Pre-1900 text and 1 x Post-1900 text <p>Component 3: Poetry Students study: poetic form, meaning and language</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A selection of post 2000 specified poetry: <i>Poems of the Decade</i>, and A specified range of poetry from: <i>The Canterbury Tales</i>, Geoffrey Chaucer <p>Component 4: Coursework Students have a choice of two texts to study from poetry, drama, prose or literary non-fiction'</p>		

Entry Qualifications	Level 6 at GCSE Literature and Language, but a grade 7 in Literature is recommended.
<p>What happens when you have finished?</p> <p>Gaining an A level in English Literature will enhance not only your knowledge of the literary heritage but also provide you with excellent communication skills-both written and oral. You will be able to express your own ideas and opinions and to analyse and construct a persuasive argument. The study of English Literature will complement any future studies in the arts, humanities, social sciences and law faculties at University. Those who study English at university can go on to careers in Media and Film, the Arts, Teaching, Journalism, Publishing and Editing, Information Technology, Business and much more.</p>	

French

Head of Department	Mrs I Lavigne lavignei@cranbrook.kent.sch.uk	
Exam Board	Pearson Edexcel	
Course Name	GCE: French	Course number A2: 9FR0
<p>Course intent and outline content:</p> <p>A level French seeks to promote cultural awareness and historical knowledge, based on the study of literary and cinematic sources. Students research a specific topic independently. Regarding the language itself, students will be exposed to more complex grammatical structures and tenses. They will develop improved spontaneity in speaking and learn to formulate and defend an argument. They will be able to read any journalistic text or other authentic material based on the set topics.</p> <p>The A level specification enables candidates to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop an understanding of spoken and written French beyond GCSE; Communicate effectively in French in a variety of registers; Develop knowledge of and critical insights into the culture, heritage and contemporary society of France or a French speaking country. <p>In Year 12, you will cover the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Changes in French Society; including changes in family structure, education and the world of work. (b) Political and Artistic Culture in French speaking countries; including music, media, festivals and traditions. (c) The film "INTOUCHABLES". <p>In Year 13, you will cover the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (d) Guided Independent Research (e) Immigration and the French multicultural society; including integration and the rise of the Far Right in France. (f) France during the Occupation period; including the Vichy Regime, antisemitism and the French Resistance (g) The book "UN SAC DE BILLES". <p>The course consists of:</p> <p>AS French (studied in Year 12)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit 1: Listening, reading and Translation into English (40%) Unit 2: Written response to the Film, Translation into French (30%) Unit 3: Speaking; responding to texts and discussion (30%) <p>A2 French</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit 1: Listening, Reading and Translation into English (40%) Unit 2: Written response to the Book, Translation into French (30%) Unit 3: Speaking; discussion on a theme, presentation and discussion on Independent Research (30%) 		

Entry Qualifications	GCSE French Level 6. Please be aware that in order to be sure of coping with this subject, a grade 7 is recommended.
What happens when you have finished? You could take this course with other advanced level course or equivalent to prepare for higher education in French, Languages or more general higher education courses. With further training, you could go into a job related to French or Languages such as a teacher and translator, international business or you may wish to use your French to study or work over in France.	

Geography

Head of Department	Mr S. Penny pennys@cranbrook.kent.sch.uk	
Exam board	AQA	
Course name	A level Geography (2-year course only)	7037
Course intent and outline content: A level Geography students will gain an appreciation of the physical and human world around them. They will be able to develop and understand geographical processes on a range of temporal and spatial scales. Through independent investigations they will develop and enhance a range of geographical skills and concepts. A desire for independent learning is nurtured through careful planning and engaging activities. Key concepts which students are required to understand include systems, feedback, inequality, identity, globalisation, interdependence, mitigation and adaptation, sustainability, risk and resilience. Students are taught to understand a wide range of geographical terms and concepts. The course consists of: <u>Year 12</u> 1. Coastal systems and landscapes 2. Hazards 3. Changing places Commence the Independent Investigation <u>Year 13</u> 4. Water and carbon cycles 5. Global systems and global governance 6. Contemporary urban environments Students will also need to complete an Independent Investigation of between 3000 – 4000 words.		
Entry qualifications	Level 6 at GCSE Geography	
What happens when you finish? Top universities classify geography as an “effective preparation subject” for degree courses. Whether you want to study Geography to degree level at University or are considering whether it is an appropriate course for A level, be secure in the knowledge that Geography is a useful subject; it acts as both a Science and Art, and is accepted by Universities. It also recently scored very highly in a survey of British businesses as a subject which prepares students for the ‘World of Work’. Statistics show that compared with other subjects, Geographers are among the most employable. The skills you use in your geographical studies make you of potential interest to a wide range of employers. The close link between the subject and the world around us makes for a long and varied list of related careers. Those leaving university with a Geography degree can enter		

many areas of employment including management, administration, marketing, planning and financial work. Geographers possess the abilities and skills that employers look for. Michael Palin in 2011 commented that “A level Geography students hold the key to the world’s problems”. The skills you use in your geographical studies make you of potential interest to a wide range of employers and not just teaching!

History

Head of Department	Mr S Young Min youngmins@cranbrook.kent.sch.uk	
Exam Board	Edexcel	
Course Name	GCE: History	Course number 9HI0
<p>Course intent and outline content:</p> <p>The teaching of History has at its heart three key intentions. Regarding knowledge and understanding, History promotes recall of facts and concepts, sequencing and chronology of key study units and topics and their application. On understanding, we aim to articulate key concepts such as change and continuity, cause and consequence, significance, using evidence. Equally important are literacy for learning and enquiry skills. In the case of the latter this means bringing knowledge, understanding and structured writing together to demonstrate persuasive writing and intellectual curiosity.</p> <p>In the Early Modern and Later Modern courses knowledge and understanding are acquired from the challenges of breadth and depth studies, thematic studies and source and interpretive exercises. Literacy for learning is instilled from the subject’s essay-based focus, an understanding of how to write extended pieces to thematic, long-term and short-term questions, writing coursework using undergraduate level material, and writing persuasively while recognising issues of controversy and debate. Lastly, the skills of enquiry are taught by synthesising the widest range of skills and materials to produce well debated essays and extended coursework piece, genuinely understanding the interplay between historians and history, and sifting through competing arguments to arrive at nuanced judgements.</p> <p><u>EARLY MODERN HISTORY</u></p> <p>At AS level the Early Modern course contains both English and European history elements centring on the period of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. In common with the Later Modern course there are two examined papers in the first year, followed by one examination and one coursework paper.</p> <p>The course consists of:</p> <p>AS History (studied in Year 12)</p> <p>Unit 1: England 1509-1603: authority, nation and religion</p> <p>Unit 2: Luther and the German Reformation c1515-55</p> <p>A2 History</p> <p>Unit3: Lancastrians, Yorkists and Henry VII, 1399-1509</p> <p>Unit 4: Coursework on the European Witchcraze c1580-1650</p> <p><u>LATER MODERN HISTORY</u></p> <p>The focus of the Later Modern course will examine the trials and tribulations of Britain and Europe as they moved forward into the twentieth century. In common with the Early Modern course there are two examined papers in the first year, followed by one examination and one coursework paper.</p> <p>The course consists of:</p>		

AS History (studied in Year 12)
 Unit 1: In search of the American Dream: the USA c1917-96
 Unit 2: South Africa, 1948-94: from apartheid state to 'rainbow nation'

A2 History
 Unit3: The British experience of warfare, c1790-1918
 Unit 4: Coursework on post-war East Germany

Entry Qualifications	History GCSE Level 6 or equivalent
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What happens when you have finished?

The course will also help you develop the skills, understanding and knowledge that many employers across lots of industries are looking for.

You could take this course to complement other advanced level courses or to prepare for higher education in History or related subjects such as English, American Studies, Politics, Archaeology or more general courses.

With further training, you could go into a job related to history by seeking employment in areas of heritage, in education such as a teacher and in a wide range of professions such as the law and the media.

Government & Politics

Head of Department	Mr S Young Min youngmins@cranbrook.kent.sch.uk	
Exam Board	Edexcel	
Course Name	GCE: Government & Politics	Course number 9PL0

Course intent and outline content:

In the Government and Politics course knowledge and understanding are acquired from the study of recent political events and structures both UK and globally, conceptual understanding including core ideologies and global theories, and contextual knowledge and understanding of current affairs.

Literacy for learning is instilled from the subject's essay-based focus, understanding how to write extended pieces to analytical and evaluative questions, writing persuasively while recognising issues of controversy and debate, and understanding how to integrate material such as concepts and political thinkers to support judgements. Lastly the skills of enquiry are taught by synthesising the widest range of skills and materials to produce well debated essays, using an understanding of political structures and ideas to allow genuine curiosity and judgement in current affairs and sifting through competing arguments to arrive at nuanced judgements.

The course is likely to consist of:

AS Politics (studied in Year 12)
 Unit 1: UK Politics – democracy, parties, elections, voting and the media
 Unit 2: UK Government – constitution, Parliament, Prime Minister and executive.

A2 Politics
 Unit3: Political Ideas – conservatism, liberalism, socialism and feminism
 Unit 4: Comparative Politics – Global politics.

Entry Qualifications	GCSE History/Geography/English Lit. Level 6 or equivalent
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What happens when you have finished?

With a GCE in Government and Politics, you can progress to higher education courses such as degrees in Politics, International Politics/relations and Political Science as well as to degrees in related subjects such as History, Geography, Economics and social policy.

The study of politics can lead to a variety of careers within areas such as journalism and broadcasting, management, publishing, local government, public policy and policy research, interest groups, local government and the voluntary sector, as well as within politics itself.

Mathematics

Head of Department	Chris Ansette ansettec@cranbrook.kent.sch.uk	
Examination Board	Edexcel	
Course Names	Level 3 GCE in Mathematics (A2) AS GCE in Mathematics (AS)	Course number: AS: 8MA0 A2: 9MA0
<p>Course intent and outline content:</p> <p>Mathematics at A level seeks to promote confidence, foster enjoyment and provide a strong and secure foundation for progress to further study. Students extend their mathematical skills and connect different areas of mathematics, including transferring knowledge to other fields. They will use the knowledge acquired to make mathematical and reasoned decisions and deductions and to apply their understanding to solve problems. Skills acquired include logical reasoning, proof and communication, analysis and modelling in real-life situations. Students are encouraged to discover links in other academic subjects, read related articles and use technology that helps them discover the beauty of the subject. Students must take increasing responsibility for their own learning evaluation of their mathematical development. This challenging course offers an excellent foundation to many degree courses, apprenticeships and a lifelong love of all things maths related.</p> <p>The course is challenging, but support and extension are offered to ensure that every student is in a position to maximise his/her potential.</p> <p>The AS course (Examinations June 2020) will comprise of 2 papers. <u>Paper 1:</u> Pure Mathematics, 2 hours, 66.7% of grade. Topics include: proof, algebra and functions, coordinate geometry, sequences and series, trigonometry, exponentials and logarithms, differentiation, integration, vectors. <u>Paper 2:</u> Statistics and Mechanics, 33.3%, 1 hour Topics include: Sampling, presenting and interpreting data, probability, statistical distributions, hypothesis testing, quantities and units in mechanics, kinematics, forces and Newton's laws.</p> <p>The A2 course (Examinations June 2021) will comprise of 3 papers, each 2 hours long. <u>Paper 1:</u> Pure Mathematics 1 Topics include: proof, algebra and functions, coordinate geometry, sequences and series, trigonometry, exponentials and logarithms, differentiation, integration, vectors. <u>Paper 2:</u> Pure Mathematics 2 Topics include: proof, algebra and functions, coordinate geometry, sequences and series, trigonometry, differentiation, integration, numerical methods. <u>Paper 3:</u> Statistics and Mechanics Topics include: Sampling, presenting and interpreting data, probability, statistical distributions, hypothesis testing, quantities and units in mechanics, kinematics, forces, Newton's laws and Moments.</p>		
Entry Qualifications	This course is suitable for any student who has a grade 6, 7, 8 or 9 in Mathematics at GCSE. The AQA Level 2 Further Maths qualification is desirable but by no means a requirement for entry to this course. It should be noted that there is a baseline test upon arrival in Year 12 which will test GCSE knowledge at level 8 or	

	9, so any students with a level 6 or 7 may wish to spend time during the summer topping up understanding. Support to do this will be available from the department after exams. Please be aware that in order to be sure of coping with this subject a grade 7 is recommended.
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What happens when you have finished?

You could use this course to support entry to higher education in areas of Mathematics, and related fields of study such as Electronics, Economics, Physics or other more general higher education courses. The course also helps you develop the skills, understanding and knowledge that many employers across lots of industries are looking for, especially in the economic and engineering sectors.

Mathematics: Further Mathematics

Head of Department	Chris Ansette ansettec@cranbrook.kent.sch.uk	
Examination Board	Edexcel	
Course Names	Level 3 GCE in Further Mathematics (A2) AS GCE in Further Mathematics (AS)	Course number AS: 8FM0 A2: 9FM0

Course Description

Note that this course can only be taken in conjunction with the AS and A2 Mathematics courses. September 2017 marked the first teaching of the new Further Mathematics for AS and A2, an exciting new course that extends the learning of the Mathematics AS and A2 and allows students to gain a broader knowledge: excellent in particular for those wishing to pursue a career relating to the subject. This is a challenging course and a passion for the subject is necessary – along with sound GCSE results. Typically, we have between 10 and 20 students study Further Mathematics each year. We have chosen to follow the Edexcel Further Mathematics course for AS and A2, students wishing to take either level will be in the same class with some students finishing after Year 12 exams. Those wishing to complete the full A2 in Further Mathematics will sit all exams at the end of Year 13. Students will select either the AS course or the A2 course – not 1 followed by the other.

The AS course (Examinations June 2020) will comprise of 2 papers.

Paper 1: Core Pure Mathematics, 50%, 1 hour 30 minutes.

Topics include: Proof, Complex numbers, Matrices, Further algebra and functions, Further Calculus, Further vectors.

Paper 2: 2C Further Mechanics*, 50%, 1 hour 30 minutes.

Topics include: Momentum and Impulse, Collisions, Centres of mass, Work and energy, Elastic strings and springs.

The A2 course (Examinations June 2021) will comprise of 4 papers, each 1 hour 30 minutes long.

Paper 1: Core Pure Mathematics 1, 25%

Topics include: Proof, Complex numbers, Matrices, Further algebra and functions, Further Calculus, Further vectors.

Paper 2: Core Pure Mathematics 2, 25%

Topics include: Complex numbers, further algebra and functions, Further Calculus, Polar coordinates, Hyperbolic functions, Differential equations.

Paper 3: 3C Further Mechanics 1*

Topics include: Momentum and Impulse, Collisions, Centres of mass, Work and energy, Elastic strings and springs.

Paper 4: 4C Further Mechanics 2*

Topics include: Motion in a circle, Centres of mass of plane figures, Further centres of mass, Further dynamics, Further kinematics.

*Modules marked with an asterisk are selected options; this is not a compulsory module but one we have selected as a school with the priorities of our students in mind. This is subject to change from year to year but gives an indication of our choice for 2023 – 2024.

Entry Qualifications	A grade 8 in GCSE Maths is needed to take this course. It would be advantageous, but is not compulsory, to have complete a further course in Mathematics such as the FSMQ or the AQA Level 2 Further Maths qualification.
What happens when you have finished? Further Maths course is obviously an ideal subject for those wishing to pursue Mathematics at university. Furthermore, those interested in Engineering at competitive universities are advised to consider Further Mathematics alongside Mathematics and Physics. This might form part of a 4 A level program.	

Drama and Theatre**

Head of Department	Mrs J Deeble deeblej@cranbrook.kent.sch.uk	
Exam Board	OCR	
Course Name	GCE: Drama and Theatre	Course number H459
Course intent and outline content: The aim of Drama at A level is to develop students' knowledge and understanding of a wide range of practitioners, texts and styles within theatre. The focus is upon the progression of analytical skills, both practical and oral, which provide students with the skills to fulfil the demands of the A level. Students are given the opportunity to direct elements of different set texts and are encouraged to make independent as well as group decisions. Students will also take a creative approach to all texts and through decision-making and support gain a thorough understanding. The social, historical and contextual analysis of each text explored is a vital component. Studying Drama and Theatre enables you to learn empathy and identification and opens up new dimensions of emotional experiences. By observing other people's creative processes and products, it can assist you in accessing emotions, along with understanding different ways of interpreting and understanding information. Drama increases your ability to think; creatively, imaginatively and divergently, it teaches students how to become critical consumers, rather than just passive viewers. Students will be questioning and critiquing their own and others' processes and products, a valued skill that is transferable. The course consists of: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Studying practitioners• The study of 'performance' - recording, observing, evaluating, analysing and participating in the performance process.• Performing live theatre (at least three performance texts.)• Analyse and evaluate live theatre performances• Written Paper 1 – Analysing performance• Written paper 2 – Deconstructing texts for performance•		
Entry qualifications	GCSE Drama level 6 or above. A good grade in GCSE English would be an advantage.	
What happens when you have finished? Drama and Theatre A level prepares learners for the further study of Drama or Performing Arts courses in Higher Education as well as developing transferable skills desired by all sectors of industry. Our specification will help create independent learners, critical thinkers and effective decision makers – all personal attributes that can make them stand out as they progress through their education and into employment.		

Religious Studies

Head of Department	Mr. W. Davies Daviesw@cranbrook.kent.sch.uk							
Exam Board	OCR							
Course Name	Religious Studies	Course number: H573/02						
Course intent and outline content: Religious studies seeks to explore the key ultimate questions that we face as humans, for example, did I exist in a previous life, what does it mean to be human, how do I live a good life and why do people suffer? From a national and global context, A level Religious Studies seeks to extend and deepen students' knowledge and understanding of philosophy, ethics and developments in thought. This is a fresh style of religious studies and a complete contrast to GCSE. The course explores key developments in human thought and follows their journey through to contemporary alternative perspectives. The aim is for students to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• present relevant arguments from a well-reasoned and robust position• appreciate and appraise the nature of different world views• reflect critically on those searching questions relating to life and society The course consists of: <table><tr><td>Philosophy of Religion (01)</td><td><ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ancient philosophical influences• The nature of the soul, mind and body• Arguments about the existence or non-existence of God• The nature and impact of religious experience• The challenge for religious belief of the problem of evil• Ideas about the nature of God• Issues in religious language</td></tr><tr><td>Religion and Ethics (02)</td><td><ul style="list-style-type: none">• Normative ethical theories• The application of ethical theory to two contemporary issues• Ethical language and thought• Debates surrounding the significant idea of conscience• Sexual ethics and the influence on ethical thought</td></tr><tr><td>Developments in Christian Thought (03)</td><td><ul style="list-style-type: none">• Religious beliefs, values and teachings, their interconnections and how they vary historically and in the contemporary world• Sources of religious wisdom and authority• Practices which shape and express religious identity, and how these vary within a tradition• Significant social and historical developments in theology and religious thought• Key themes related to the relationship between religion and society</td></tr></table>			Philosophy of Religion (01)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ancient philosophical influences• The nature of the soul, mind and body• Arguments about the existence or non-existence of God• The nature and impact of religious experience• The challenge for religious belief of the problem of evil• Ideas about the nature of God• Issues in religious language	Religion and Ethics (02)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Normative ethical theories• The application of ethical theory to two contemporary issues• Ethical language and thought• Debates surrounding the significant idea of conscience• Sexual ethics and the influence on ethical thought	Developments in Christian Thought (03)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Religious beliefs, values and teachings, their interconnections and how they vary historically and in the contemporary world• Sources of religious wisdom and authority• Practices which shape and express religious identity, and how these vary within a tradition• Significant social and historical developments in theology and religious thought• Key themes related to the relationship between religion and society
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Entry qualifications	GCSE level 6 or above in English and/or another Humanities subject. A GCSE level 7 would be desirable.							
What happens when you have finished? This course has strong links with other subjects, such as History and English, although it also contains elements of sociology, politics, psychology, classics and anthropology. By studying Philosophy and Ethics, a wide variety of subject options in further education are opened up. In fact, the Russell Group universities count this course as one of the most valuable GCE qualifications to have. In terms of the subject's use for future careers, according to a recent Times article ' <i>Philosophy is, in commercial jargon, the ultimate "transferable work skill"</i> '. Whilst this qualification is extremely useful in a wide range of careers, it is particularly well suited to professions such as medicine, law and education, as the skills it teaches you is the ability to critically analyse and evaluate sources, and argue to a logical conclusion, yet at the same time being tolerant and respectful towards the views of others.								

Physics

Head of Department	Mr A Hills hillsa@cranbrook.kent.sch.uk	
Exam board	AQA	
Course name	GCE: Physics	Course number AS: 7407 A2: 7408

Course intent and outline content:

The AS course in Year 12 comprises the first half of the full A level. It provides a smooth progression from GCSE and largely develops topics already familiar to students, but pushes these ideas further and in new directions. We also venture into the field of Particle Physics, studying completely new ideas and touching gently on the weirdness of the quantum realm.

A level Physics is an exploration into the world about us that builds upon interest and skills developed during the GCSE course. The subject aims to produce students who are confident to learn independently. A large number of students go on to study physics or related degrees such as engineering at Russell Group universities (or similar) or go on to a related apprenticeship.

The remaining material in the A level course in Year 13 deals with a variety of unfamiliar and powerful ideas which increasingly look at the universe at its most fundamental level. There is some choice of study in the final section of the course that allows students to tailor their learning towards their intended career or areas of personal interest.

AS Physics (studied in Year 12)

Particles and Radiation
Waves

Mechanics and Materials
Electricity

Additional material for A level Physics (studied in Year 13)

Fields
Thermal Physics

Further Mechanics
Nuclear Physics

Plus, an optional topic chosen from: Astrophysics; Medical Physics; Engineering Physics; or Turning Points in Physics.

Practical skills remain a key part of both the AS and A level Physics course and your understanding of practical skills and data analysis is assessed in the theory papers.

There is no coursework exam, but if you continue to A2 then your teacher must make a pass or fail assessment of your practical skills. This is certificated alongside your grade on the theory paper, and university entry requirements may include achieving the pass grade.

The Examiner expects 99% of students to gain the practical pass grade and this is readily achievable if you take a consistently organised approach to practical activities and reports.

Entry qualifications

At least level 6 in GCSE Physics, or an average of level 6 in the two Physics papers for those who sit Double Award Science.

At least level 6 in Maths

Please be aware that in order to be sure of coping with this subject, a level 7 is recommended in both Maths and Physics.

What happens when you have finished?

A level Physics students are equipped with skills and knowledge that transfer to a range of careers. You could choose to seek employment in a wide variety of areas such as engineering, medicine, forensics, sports science, geophysics, aeronautics, nanotechnology or research. If you intend to continue studying at university level, Physics A level can lead to a host of degree courses such as photonics, engineering, architecture, mathematics, actuarial science, computing, medicine and a large variety of science related courses. Physics graduates are highly sought after in industry and in the financial world (physics *is* rocket science, after all.)

Spanish

Head of Department	Mrs I Lavigne-Kidney lavignei@cranbrook.kent.sch.uk	
Exam Board	Pearson Edexcel	
Course Name	GCE: Spanish	Course number 9 SP0
<p>Course intent and outline content:</p> <p>A level Spanish seeks to promote cultural awareness and historical knowledge, based on the study of literary and cinematic sources. Students research a specific topic independently. Regarding the language itself, students will be exposed to more complex grammatical structures and tenses. They will develop improved spontaneity in speaking and learn to formulate and defend an argument. They will be able to read any journalistic text or other authentic material based on the set topics.</p> <p>The Spanish A level specification enables candidates to:</p> <p>Develop an advanced level knowledge and understanding of the Spanish language, the culture of Spain and other Spanish-speaking countries, as well as practical and valuable language and transferable study skills.</p> <p>By the end of Y12, you will have covered the following topics:</p> <p>Theme 1: The evolution of Spanish society, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) The impact of tourism on the Spanish economy and the environment,(b) The world of work(c) Changes in family structures. <p>Theme 2: The evolution of Spanish society, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(d) Music trends and tendencies.(e) The media (The influence of TV, Internet, etc.) on society and politics.(f) Festivals and traditions. <p>By the end of Y13, you will have covered the following topics:</p> <p>Theme 3: Immigration and the Spanish multicultural society including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(g) The origin of immigration and its influence.(h) Integration and the challenges of multiculturalism. <p>Theme 4: The evolution of Spanish society, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(i) The Franco dictatorship(j) The transition from dictatorship to democracy. <p>Cinema and literature:</p> <p>In Y12, the students will study a Spanish-speaking film.</p> <p>In Y13, the students will study a Spanish-speaking novel.</p> <p>The A level examination consists of:</p> <p>72 marks</p>		
Entry qualifications	Level 6 in GCSE Spanish Please be aware that in order to be sure of coping with this subject, a grade 7 is recommended.	
<p>What happens when you have finished?</p> <p>This course will help to prepare students for higher education in Spanish and enhance their employability. With further training, you could go into a job requiring knowledge of Spanish or languages such as teaching, translating, international business or you may wish to use your Spanish to study or work over in Spain. The course will also help you develop the skills, understanding and knowledge that many employers across many industries are looking for, especially in the travel and tourism sector.</p>		

Psychology

Head of Department	Mrs Louise Vaughan vaughanl@cranbrook.kent.sch.uk	
Exam Board	AQA	
Course Name	GCE Psychology	Course code: 7182

Course intent and outline content:

A level Psychology teaches students how to systematically study human behaviour and mental processes. The course requires students to develop, evaluate and debate arguments on theories and studies in Psychology. Students become critical thinkers who are able to analyse data and consider the ethics behind experimental research. Perhaps most importantly, Psychology students learn to apply their psychological knowledge to real-life settings and scenarios.

This course allows students an insight into human behaviours and the methods of studying them. There are key themes that are compulsory for all students to cover which include:

Social influence, memory, attachment, psychopathology, biopsychology, approaches, debates and research methods.

In Year 13 there are a range of optional topics where we teach one option from block 1, 2 and 3.

Option 1	Option 2	Option 3
Gender, Relationships, Cognition	Schizophrenia, Eating behaviours, Stress	Aggression, Forensic Psychology, Addiction.

It should be noted that mathematics features throughout the course where students are required to manipulate data, draw graphs, put numbers into equations and interpret both descriptive and inferential statistics.

The exam structure is:

2-year course
<p>Three x 2-hour exams</p> <p>Paper 1: (33%) 96 marks</p> <p>Social Influence, Memory, Attachment and Psychopathology</p> <p>Paper 2 (33%) 96 marks</p> <p>Approaches in Psychology, Biopsychology and Research Methods</p> <p>Paper 3 (33%) 96 marks</p> <p>Issues and Debates, 3 option topics</p>

Entry Qualifications	A minimum of Level 5 in Maths and 2 sciences. Minimum Level 6 in English.
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What happens when you have finished?

Students can continue onto a number of degree/career pathways from Psychology as it bridges the science/humanity gaps. Many students go on to study psychology, counselling, physiotherapy, nursing, occupational health, speech therapy and social work. Psychology also provides transferable skills helping into career pathways such as management, business, research and teaching.

PE

Head of Department	Alastair Carter cartera@cranbrook.kent.sch.uk	
Exam board	OCR	
Course name	A level in Physical Education (H555)	
Course intent and outline content: There are FOUR assessment components to OCR's A level in Physical Education. THREE EXAMS: Components 01, 02 and 03.s		
H555/01 Physiological factors affecting performance This component will assess: 1.1 Applied anatomy and physiology , 1.2 Exercise physiology , 1.3 Biomechanics Written paper: 2 hours 30% of total A level 90 marks This paper consists of a mixture of objective response, short and medium length answers, and extended response items. It may also include multiple choice questions.		
H555/02 Psychological factors affecting performance: 2.1 Skill acquisition , 2.2 Sports psychology Written paper: 1 hour 20% of total A level 60 marks This paper consists of a mixture of objective response, short and medium length answers, and extended response items. It may also include multiple choice questions.		
H555/03 Socio-cultural issues in physical activity and sport : 3.1 Sport and society , 3.2 Contemporary issues in physical activity and sport Written paper: 1 hour 20% of total A level 60 marks This paper consists of a mixture of objective response, short and medium length answers, and extended response items. It may also include multiple choice questions.		
H555/05 Practical Performances: Either core and advanced skills in performing one activity or core and advanced skills in coaching one activity.		
Non-exam assessment (NEA) 15% of total A level 30 marks, weighted up to 45 marks This NEA will consist of one activity taken from the approved list. Learners can be assessed in the role of performer or coach.		
H555/06 Evaluating and Analysing Performance for Improvement This component draws upon the knowledge, understanding and skills a learner has learnt throughout the course and enables them to analyse and evaluate a peer's performance in one activity.		
Non-exam assessment (NEA) 15% of total A level 30 marks, weighted up to 45 marks This NEA will consist of observing a live or recorded performance by a peer and then providing an oral response analysand critically evaluating the performance.		
Entry qualifications	Minimum level 6 in both PE and Biology	
What skills will this course develop? <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop theoretical knowledge and understanding of the factors that underpin physical activity and sport and use this knowledge to improve performance• Understand how physiological and psychological states affect performance• Understand the key socio-cultural factors that influence people's involvement in physical activity• Understand the role technology in physical activity and sport• Refine their ability to perform effectively in physical activity and sport by developing skills and techniques and selecting and using tactics, strategies and/or compositional ideas• Develop their ability to analyse and evaluate to improve performance• Understand the contribution which physical activity makes to health and fitness• Improve as effective and independent learners and as critical and reflective thinkers with curious and enquiring minds		

Extended Project Qualification

Course run by: EPQ Co-ordinator	Dr S Darby darbys@cranbrook.kent.sch.uk	
Exam Board	AQA	
Course Name	Level 3 Extended Project Qualification	Course number: 7993
Course intent and outline content: The EPQ offers opportunities for students to develop and improve their learning and performance as critical, reflective and independent students. Students develop and apply decision-making, problem-solving skills and extend their skills in planning, research, critical thinking, analysis, synthesis, evaluation and presentation. The EPQ has proved to be popular with students. It provides an opportunity for students to extend their abilities beyond the A level syllabus and pursue individual interests. It allows students to embark on a largely self-directed project with an emphasis on skill development where students take responsibility for the choice and design of an individual project. Projects are founded on researched-based critical analysis and presented in the form of an academically referenced report, an artefact or a performance. The EPQ is higher than an AS in terms of UCAS points being worth half of the points of an A level and is graded A* - E. The course consists of: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A 12-month period of largely independent study starts in the Autumn term of Year 12 and finishes in the Autumn term of Year 13. Students are supported through their project with a taught skills program to cover key skills required and are matched to a supervisor who offers guidance through the process.• Students are required to<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Choose an area of interest to research and draft a title/project aims for formal approval▪ Independently plan, research and refine their project focus and title▪ Complete researched-based critical analysis and present as an academically referenced report▪ Deliver a presentation to a non-specialist audience▪ Evidence of all stages of project development and decision making in the form of a production log		
Entry Qualifications	GCSE points exceeding a total of 70	
What happens when you have finished? Students can use their EPQ learning experiences to support their aspirations for further study and career development. Skills developed through the EPQ enable students to stand out in their university applications, provide an excellent foundation for study at university and are highly transferable to employment for future careers. Recognition of the study skills acquired from the EPQ, can result in reducing the level of a university offer, give an application preference on highly selective courses over students who do not have an EPQ, contribute to points for students applying on total points achieved and provide a focus for content within a personal statement and for interview discussion.		