



HAMMERSMITH

Academy

Sixth Form Prospectus
2023-24

INSPIRE CREATE SUCCEED



Our Vision

To develop highly qualified, aspirational young adults who make outstanding progress and, as active citizens, take a lead within the community and are committed to giving 100% in everything they do.

Values

We inspire pride and confidence in our students to achieve their full potential. Everyone in the Academy is responsible for modelling a positive and professional attitude at all times.

We create a stimulating and enriching learning environment where high expectations and challenge prepare students for a global society.

We succeed by developing a growth mind-set through the skills of resilience, resourcefulness, reflectiveness and reciprocity.

HEADTEACHER'S WELCOME



Our aim is to develop highly qualified, independent and thoughtful citizens who model positive values and professional attitudes as a means to succeed in a global society.

We are committed to excellence in every aspect of Sixth Form life. Key Stage 5 is an important time of transition, personal commitment and growth. Students are expected to be motivated and to take increased responsibility for their own learning. We seek, through collaboration and purposeful professionalism, for students to develop their self-confidence in their abilities and skills.

A well-equipped modern building provides excellent facilities. A separate Sixth Form Centre and mezzanine study space provides a high quality and professional learning environment. Further, our extensive extra-curricular offer provides enrichment

through sport, charity, arts, technology and student leadership.

We advise on appropriate pathways to suit individual learning styles and long-term ambitions. Most students study academic A Levels, whilst some specialist vocational studies are available within our broad curriculum. Students can receive additional preparation for Oxbridge entrance and Russell Group university applications. Over the last five years some 90% of Sixth Formers have gone on to university.

Our Livery Company sponsors, The Mercers' and The Information Technologists provide numerous opportunities for internships, work experience, mentoring and access to business events where networks are developed and real life challenges provided in readiness for careers in the City and beyond.

Sixth Form students at Hammersmith Academy have energy, passion and determination to succeed academically and embark on careers that will change their lives and the lives of others.

This is a chance to bring your skills, aptitudes, abilities and personality and add to our dynamic community of learning.

Let's achieve your ambitions together!

Gary Kynaston, Headteacher

WELCOME FROM HEAD OF SIXTH FORM

Here at Hammersmith Academy, we are committed to providing a vibrant learning environment where you are taught by outstanding teachers, have access to fantastic resources, are supported by a dedicated pastoral team and achieve great success.

We work hard to ensure your experiences in our Sixth Form prepare you for the workplace or university. Your time at the Academy will equip you with vital life skills and the ability to balance independence and responsibility alongside being able to prioritise effectively to meet deadlines and other expectations. This is perhaps best evidenced by our longer learning sessions, which are central to a deeper understanding of your chosen subjects and are complemented by a wide range of enrichment activities. These activities, which include sports, study support, work experience, assisting the learning of younger students and inspiring external visits, all contribute to support your wider learning.

At this stage of your education you will also value the high level of pastoral and extensive careers advice we offer. You will have access to a dedicated Careers Lead who will guide you through the UCAS process and the writing of your personal statement, as well as giving you access to many unique employment and training opportunities. Graduates of our Sixth Form have been successful in gaining places at a wide range of universities, including the Oxford and Cambridge and the Russell Group to study Medicine, Law, Economics, Biomedical Sciences and English Literature, and we are very proud to have placed students at outstanding internships in successful companies.

I guarantee that if you choose Hammersmith Academy you will receive the highest level of support from all of our staff to ensure you are empowered to reach your fullest potential.

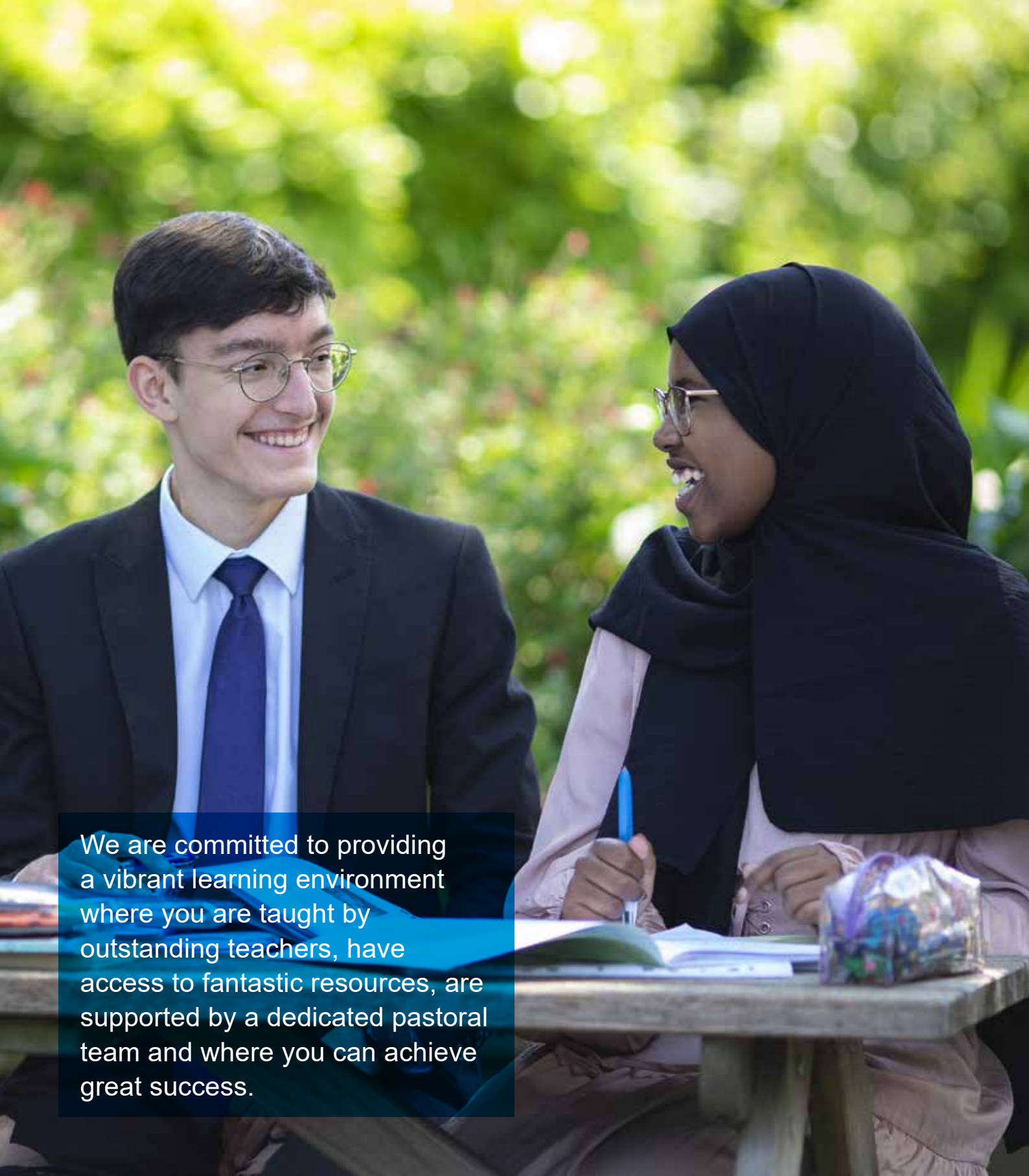
I look forward to welcoming you to Hammersmith Academy.

Jess Adolphus, Head of Sixth Form

“Hammersmith Academy is an inspiring place where ambitions are realised and students have exceptional opportunities that allow them to develop their individual characters and talents”

Ofsted



A young man with dark hair and glasses, wearing a dark suit, white shirt, and dark tie, is smiling and looking towards a young woman. The woman is wearing a black hijab, glasses, and a light-colored long-sleeved shirt. She is holding a blue pen and looking at an open book on a wooden table. A small, colorful, crinkled object is on the table next to the book. The background is a lush green garden with sunlight filtering through the leaves.

We are committed to providing a vibrant learning environment where you are taught by outstanding teachers, have access to fantastic resources, are supported by a dedicated pastoral team and where you can achieve great success.



All our Sixth Form students have a house tutor at the Academy who acts as a personal advisor. They monitor individual progress and provide support to ensure potential is reached. Further, students receive expert careers and university guidance and financial literacy education.

THE SIXTH FORM

Hammersmith Academy develops students' talents to the full and raises educational achievement, through outstanding teaching. We develop creativity, innovation and nurture leadership skills. We build on aspirations, reward achievements and ensure students develop an attitude of professionalism. Hammersmith Academy is an exciting place to be and provides a learning environment in which excellence is the norm and ambitions can be realised.

The Sixth Form Centre

The Academy's Sixth Form is based in a dedicated Sixth Form Centre tailored to the requirements of aspirational young adults. Students have access to their own IT Suite and private study area where students can work independently or on collaborative projects, as well as access to Sixth Form only reprographics and administrative facilities.

The Sixth Form Team

Our Sixth Form students are supported by a team of three key members of staff; The Head of Sixth Form, Deputy Head of Sixth Form, Head of Careers and Cultural Connections and a Careers Co-ordinator. They are on hand to provide daily support, both academically and pastorally, and are situated within the Centre and are always available as a point of contact.

In addition, all our Sixth Form students have a house tutor at the Academy who acts as a personal advisor. They monitor individual progress and provide support to ensure potential is reached. Students receive expert careers guidance and support with applications. Financial assistance may also be available to help you fund purchases of educational materials and uniform requirements.

Together, the Team ensure that every Sixth Former attains their full potential and achieves their immediate goals for life beyond the Academy.



Every Sixth Form student plays a key role in the Academy's peer coaching programme.

Role Models

Every Sixth Form student plays a key role in the Academy's peer coaching programme. This is an opportunity to develop leadership skills and mentor others to become confident learners. Sixth Formers are expected to take a mature approach to their studies and adopt a professional standard of dress, which reflects the ethos and ambitions of the Academy and all its members.

When students leave Hammersmith Academy, they not only have impressive qualifications, but are also confident, articulate, rounded and grounded individuals.

Dress Code

Our practices mirror those found in the world of industry and commerce. As such, smart office wear that conforms to the standards found in the modern workplace must be worn.

A full suit or jacket/blazer, shirt or blouse, formal skirts and trousers, jumpers and cardigans are acceptable.

Financial support may be available for those students who require assistance.

THE SIXTH FORM CURRICULUM

Hammersmith Academy's Sixth Form is a springboard into higher education and employment. Students choose from a wide range of academic and vocational courses, including our specialisms of Digital Media and IT.



We offer over 20 Level 3 courses, the majority A Level, and some BTEC.

Students are expected to gain a minimum of eight, 9-4 grades at GCSE, including English and Mathematics, for entry to any A Level course, with at least a grade 6 in the chosen subject, (some subjects require a grade 7).

Students are expected to study three A Level course choices or a combination of three A Level and BTEC courses. (Our offer may also be subject to change, depending on the popularity of courses).

For full information regarding the courses on offer and the individual subject entry requirements, please refer to the Faculties & Courses section on page 15.

A traditional curriculum infused with digital media and ICT

SharePoint, the Academy's Virtual Learning Environment, is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. This provides ready and reliable access to the Academy's information resources, not only for students but also for parents. This e-portal gives access to the online curriculum and all the tools and information needed to manage learning and achievement.

Our extensive IT provision supports students in working collaboratively and creatively through a variety of media, allowing sharing and discussion of ideas with teachers and peers to consolidate understanding and knowledge.

Session 3 and the Additional Curriculum

A typical day for students is divided into four main learning sessions and a tutor session. The additional curriculum, known as Session 3, offers students a wide range of academic and recreational extra-curricular enrichment opportunities that complement and extend academic study.

Session 3 provides something for all with a wide range of activities such as Sports, Languages, Drama Productions, Photography, Digital Gaming Development, Dance and Radio Production and many others.

Our state-of-the-art facilities make the Academy the ideal place for students to prepare for the working world. Our ultra-modern learning environment includes media and video editing suites, a comprehensive library; Information Technology centres, a four-court sports hall, dance and drama studios, as well as a theatre with tiered seating for 200.

Our Sixth Form Curriculum

- develops skills for successful entry into university, employment or further training
- supports students with guidance on university, mentoring and internships, through our Careers and UCAS team
- ensures students develop into mature, independent learners with a professional 'can-do' attitude



“Leaders and staff ensure that all pupils, including those students in the sixth form, are well prepared for the next stage in their learning.”

Ofsted

UNIVERSITY, CAREERS & DESTINATIONS

We are immensely ambitious for our students at Hammersmith Academy and in particular our Sixth Formers. We nurture them towards making the right career choices from day one. Good careers guidance ensures that our students leave HA well-prepared for the outside world, with the employability skills that they need to succeed and do well in life.

UCAS

It's essential that our students take the lead in their own career journey, however we provide students with the best possible support to cultivate their ambition. University entrance is a priority; on average 90% of our Sixth Form apply to university, although top apprenticeships are increasingly popular.

Our dedicated Head of Careers supports students through the UCAS application process. This includes gaining places on sought-after pre-university access and outreach courses, a student-led Med Soc, visits to universities and an annual trip to the UCAS Fair.

Year 13 students value the unusually high level of 1:1 support when writing their personal statements, and for Oxbridge students we offer additional free access to expert coaching from our partner independent schools St Paul's and St Paul's Girls.



Careers Guidance

HA careers support is not just about higher education. We work hard to build students' wider subject and career expertise and insight. Regular Careers Briefings are emailed to students jammed with university, work experience and employability opportunities that will help our students stand out from the crowd.

We run a range of seminars and workshops to help students secure competitive apprenticeships, offering personalised coaching in CV writing, interview practice and key employability skills. Our events calendar includes an evening designed to help parents understand the university and apprenticeship application process, Year 12 Future Planning Week and opportunities for students to join trips to find out more about tech careers, the advertising industry and a range of other employers. Our strong links with our sponsors and businesses give our Sixth Form students access to internships

and work experience. We remain in touch with many students long after they leave the Academy, discussing options, and inviting them back to share their experiences with younger students. We take particular care in helping SEN students to navigate individual needs and challenges of moving from school to higher education or work.

Going the extra mile

Careers guidance is at the heart of our Sixth Form offering and our students relish the personalised care and support that they get. Just getting them through A Levels and BTEC qualifications does not constitute a successful education. The Department for Education has noted that "high quality, independent careers guidance is crucial in helping pupils emerge from school more fully rounded and ready for the world of work" and at Hammersmith Academy we take this responsibility seriously.

STUDENT JOURNEYS



Calvin Hartley - History & Politics

University of Cambridge

I arrived at Hammersmith Academy in Year 7, so I was already aware of the excellent level of teaching and just how committed the teachers are, not just in creating interesting lessons, but in supporting students outside of the classroom.

I was fully aware of which members of staff to get support from. This was especially so when applying for UCAS. I was connected with St Paul's School and St Paul's Girls' School for workshops and advice regarding my Oxbridge admissions tests and interviews.

My decision to apply for the Sixth Form wasn't made purely on academic terms. I was excited to engage in the extra-curricular opportunities. As a Sixth Former I have visited the headquarters of The Economist, had work experience at Ofgem, and presented an invention at the Guildhall! The unique opportunities to engage with and develop my interests outside of the classroom is what made the Sixth Form so special to me, and after seven years I truly feel like I have developed both academically and overall as a person.

Bushra Elmoussati - Geography, University of Oxford

I joined Hammersmith Academy in Year 12. I was immediately enrolled on KCL's K+ programme which supports students with university applications and providing skills ready for undergraduate life, with the help of the Academy's Careers Lead. I was also helped in securing support from the Social Mobility Foundation which gave me access to networking events at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and work experience in Parliament working for an MP. The Sixth Form Insight Programme also led to a two week paid internship at Futerra, a sustainability consultancy.

When I was looking for a Sixth Form, Hammersmith Academy was a stand out choice. I have had unconditional academic support and the amazing careers service gave me opportunities that have allowed me to prepare and develop for a successful future.

I have now graduated from the University of Oxford and am starting my career at the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office as part of the Diplomatic Fast Stream.



STUDENT JOURNEYS



Linda Ali - Mishcon de Reya

I graduated from the University of York with a 2:1 in Philosophy. I then completed my law conversion and worked as a paralegal for a few years at various companies.

In 2021 I got my training contract with Mishcon de Reya, completed my LPC in June of this year and started the training contract in August. So it has been a very busy few years!

Matthew Sanetra - Computer Science, University of Oxford

I joined Hammersmith Academy in Year 7, so by the time I was applying to Sixth Form I already knew the staff and how engaging the lessons are.

The Careers Team provided me with opportunities consistently throughout my two years at the Sixth Form, significantly helping me with my UCAS application and Oxford interviews.

They hosted a session with HA Alumni who study at Oxbridge, and they also encouraged me to apply to the Aspiring Professionals Programme, run by the Social Mobility Foundation - both of which provided me with invaluable advice and helped me build my confidence.

I was also connected with St Paul's Girls' School for a mock Computer Science interview, which significantly helped me prepare for my real interviews.



STUDENT JOURNEYS



Hamza El-Bakkali - IBM

Hammersmith Academy's Sixth Form offered me far more than I really comprehended at the time. From an opportunity to travel to the Amazon rainforest with the British Exploring Society, to joining a Fortune 500 company and everything in between.

The staff genuinely care about you and your career and having that kind of support is what really separates the Academy from the rest.

I owe a lot of my success to Hammersmith Academy and plan to pay some of it back.

Dami Sotinwa - Moonage Pictures

When I joined Hammersmith Academy for Sixth Form, I was instantly struck by how passionate the teachers were about their students' success.

Regardless of your choice of path beyond school, the Academy takes care to ensure you have your best foot forward to make that next step.

I have recently graduated from the University of Bristol with a BA in Classical Studies.

I am now a trainee script editor at Moonage Pictures, an independent TV production company.



CREATING FUTURE CITIZENS

Community is central to our students' time at Hammersmith Academy and we are proud of the way our students interact with each other, with neighbours near and far, and with organisations that rely upon the next generation to take the lead. Our students leave HA with a well-rounded education that ensures that they have a wide understanding and empathy for the world we live in.

Leadership

Sixth Formers have plenty of opportunities to develop leadership skills in the heart of our community. Our Sixth Form students can apply to become part of the Sixth Form Leadership Team and take responsibility for ensuring positive interactions throughout the Academy day. The Team are also the first point of contact for many of our visitors, giving guided tours and welcoming parents and guests to the school. They also lead Sixth Form initiatives, meet with senior staff and represent the Academy at formal events.

Giving Back

All Sixth Formers are encouraged to give back to their community. Whether this be through student leadership; supporting or mentoring younger students; volunteering opportunities within the community and more. We want our young adults to take the lead in making a commitment to the wider world, but it is also something which we know will be of personal benefit, developing essential transferable skills for the future.

The Insight Programme

The HA Insight Programme is focussed around our weekly speaker event that gives the Sixth Form access to a wide range of communities, opportunities and

intellectual challenges. We also use it as a unique opportunity to build sophisticated conversational skills, inviting a small group of students to a sandwich lunch with the occasional guest. Our speakers throw open windows into unknown worlds, introducing important ideas and interesting careers and providing the kind of opportunities and intellectual challenges that will give our ambitious young people the skills and ideas to access top universities and careers. But more than that, the HA Insight Programme adds moral texture to the learning environment, allowing us to share and discuss ideas about honesty, integrity, politics, communication, society, diversity and discrimination.

Educational Visits and Adventure

Our aspirational environment is complemented by educational visits. As part of the Insight Programme, students are invited to attend seminars and lectures at venues throughout London, as well as receiving invitations and information about wider cultural and intellectual activities. Some of these will be run by members of staff, and for others we facilitate and expect the students to take the lead.

We are proud to be one of very few schools in the UK to be part of the British Exploring Society Ambassador Programme. Students

have travelled to the Highlands of Scotland, the Peruvian Amazon, on a tall ship to Iceland and to the Canadian Yukon. The lucky students who are selected face challenges, gain skills and learn much about themselves and the fragile environments that they explore. The experience is life-changing – not just in terms of the skills they learn and the resilience gained, but in a new-found confidence and self-belief which they take forward into the future. We also support our students to apply for Mark Evison Foundation funding and to take part in summer research programmes, all of which develop skills which have a profound impact on the future success of individuals in education, employment and life.

We know that employers and universities put a premium on these kind of community and life skills, and we believe that this aspect of the Sixth Form education is an essential part of students' personal growth and preparation for adult life. However it's also about nurturing personable, committed and engaged future citizens who leave the Academy well-prepared to step up and play a role in a challenging world.



SIXTH FORM RESULTS

Hammersmith Academy Sixth Formers defied a national downturn to achieve top grades and continue university and apprenticeship success.

Hammersmith Academy students achieved excellent A Level results, maintaining the Academy's reputation of getting students into the UK's top Russell Group universities and Oxbridge and securing students into leading apprenticeship programmes.

Despite the expectation that grades would be significantly downgraded across the UK, bringing them back to 2019 levels, Hammersmith Academy students held firm by attaining an impressive: 43% of all grades awarded A*-B, 72% of all grades were awarded A*-C, bucking the national trend.

There were outstanding results across a number of subjects namely Sociology, Politics, DT, English, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Spanish & BTEC Sport.

Hammersmith Academy students continue to achieve places at top universities including Cambridge, King's College London and The Bartlett School of Architecture, and across a wide range of subjects such as Medicine, Mathematics, Psychology and Computer Science to name a few. In addition, a number of students secured places on highly competitive apprenticeship programmes at leading companies BlackRock, Sky, and BDP.

Hammersmith Academy has a strong track record of academic success, and our students are consistently well-prepared for university and professional life.



A-Level 2023 Standout Successes

- Safwan Uddin was the Academy's highest achiever with A*A*A*A* and is reading **Mathematics** at **King's College London**.
- Ermir Bela scored a brilliant A*A*AA and decided to turn down a place at the prestigious **Bartlett School of Architecture** to commence an **Architecture** Degree Apprenticeship at Architecture Firm BDP.
- Eliza Mackay accomplished A*, BTEC Distinction*, A and has gone on to read **Geography** (with placement year) at **Loughborough University**.
- Kiera Ghouneim was awarded A*A*B and reads **Psychology** at **Queen Mary University of London**.
- Ana Mackenzie took up a place at **University of Cambridge** to study a Foundation Year in Arts, Humanities and achieved A*AB.
- Sahra Abdi achieved A*AA and studies **Medicine** at **King's College London**.
- Milan Kleins achieved an impressive A*A*AA and will study **Computer Science** (with industrial experience) at **Queen Mary University of London**.
- Mai Kheir completed her English Foundation Year and takes up her place to read **English Literature** at **University of Oxford**.

HAMMERSMITH ACADEMY

Faculties & Courses

The Faculty of Arts 17

Art, Craft and Design	A Level	Edexcel
Drama and Theatre Studies	A Level	Edexcel
Photography	A Level	Edexcel
Product Design	A Level	AQA

The Faculty of Business and Economics 19

Business	BTEC Level 3 National Ext. Cert.	Edexcel
Economics	A Level	Edexcel

The Faculty of English and Media 20

English Literature	A Level	Edexcel
Film Studies	A Level	Eduqas
Media Studies	A Level	Eduqas

The Faculty of Humanities 22

Geography	A Level	OCR
Government and Politics	A Level	Edexcel
History	A Level	AQA
Psychology	A Level	AQA
Sociology	A Level	OCR

The Faculty of ICT and Computer Science 25

Information Technology	BTEC Level 3 National Ext. Cert.	Edexcel
Computer Science	A Level	OCR

The Faculty of Mathematics 26

Mathematics	A Level	Edexcel
Core Mathematics	AS Level	AQA
Further Mathematics	A Level	Edexcel

The Faculty of Modern Foreign Languages 27

Spanish	A Level	AQA
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The Faculty of Physical Education 28

Sport	BTEC Level 3 National Ext. Cert.	Edexcel
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The Faculty of Science 29

Applied Science	BTEC Level 3 National Ext. Cert.	Edexcel
Biology	A Level	AQA
Chemistry	A Level	Edexcel
Physics	A Level	OCR

THE FACULTY OF Arts

A Level Art and Design (EDEXCEL)

Overview

Art, Craft and Design develops a visual form of communication and expression that is equal in its importance to literacy and numeracy. It is an important part of the development of young people's creativity.

The course is an exciting opportunity to explore a range of Art and Design processes through a number of themed and personalised projects. From fine art painting and sculpture to photography and Photoshop illustration, students will learn new skills and techniques, alongside refining those gained at GCSE.

Students will broaden their foundation skills in drawing, painting and 3D model making. These skills, alongside graphic software and critical and contextual studies, will allow learners to develop engaging personal projects that will see the progression of ideas from initial thoughts to an individual and artistic outcome.

Additionally, students will have the opportunity to visit a range of exhibitions and galleries, enter work into national competitions, as well as explore a range of artists, both historical and contemporary, from a varied scope of cultures and backgrounds.

Entry Requirements

Eight or more GCSEs at grades 9-4 including a minimum grade 6 in Art and Design or equivalent. A portfolio of work will also need to be seen.

A Level Drama and Theatre Studies (EDEXCEL)

Overview

Drama and Theatre Studies not only develops performance skills, it improves creativity and communication, builds team work, confidence and promotes leadership and independent thinking. For this reason it is highly valued by universities when students apply for degree courses especially Law, English, Media and Drama.

Throughout the course, students will perform in a variety of plays, study influential practitioners, look at the history of drama and participate in numerous vocal and movement workshops. Students will work with visiting professionals and see live performances.

Learners will have access to the Academy's Theatre, Dance and Drama studios which are all fully equipped with a lighting rig and PA. There will also be the opportunity to work within the local community and in professional theatre spaces.

Entry Requirements

Eight or more GCSEs at grades 9-4 including GCSE English, and minimum grade 6 in Drama or Distinction in BTEC Level 2 Performing Arts.

A Level Photography (EDEXCEL)

Overview

A-Level Photography is an exciting opportunity to develop your creative skills and learn how to communicate visually through the medium of photography. You will explore a range of photographic techniques and genres, from portraiture to landscape to documentary photography. Additionally, you will learn how to use a camera and its controls effectively, compose and light your shots, edit and process your images, and develop your own personal style and vision as a photographer. You will also learn how to edit and present your work in a professional way, through building a portfolio and online website.

In addition to expressing yourself through photography, you will also learn about the work of other photographers and how to develop your own critical and contextual understanding of the medium.

A-Level Photography is a challenging but rewarding course that can lead to a career in a variety of creative fields, such as photography, journalism, advertising, and graphic design.

Entry Requirements

Eight or more GCSEs at grades 9-4. No prior subject-specific knowledge is required.

A Level Product Design (AQA)

Overview

The subject is taught in state-of-the-art multi material workshops and design studios complete with industry standard facilities.

All students will be encouraged to explore ideas of originality and value, to question, challenge and to envisage what could be. Students will develop a range of skills and outcomes for their A Level and this must demonstrate their creativity. These skills should all be evident in a coherent and creative design portfolio.

The Product Design course has been designed to encourage students to take a broad view of product design. The course is a linear course and consist of two units;

- Non Examined Assessment, worth 50%
- Examination (2 papers sat June Year 13), worth 50%

Good design and engineering is vital to our world and economy and it is important that the next generation of designers / engineers are enthused with a passion for creating an innovative and sustainable future.

Entry Requirements

Eight or more GCSEs Grades 9-4 including a minimum grade 6 in Design and Technology GCSE.

THE FACULTY OF

Business and Economics

BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Business (EDEXCEL)

Overview

The new BTEC Nationals were developed in collaboration with employers and representatives from higher education and relevant professional bodies and therefore the content is up to date and includes the knowledge, understanding, skills and attributes required in the sector. The course focuses initially upon exploring business and the many aspects that are important to business success. Further, students will develop awareness that business behaviours can be studied from the perspectives of a range of stakeholders including customers, shareholders and employees. In addition, students will investigate the role of marketing and build a sound knowledge of personal and business finance. Students will perform vocational tasks that encourage the development of appropriate vocational behaviours and transferable skills. Transferable skills are those such as communication, teamwork, research and analysis, which are valued in both higher education and the workplace. In addition to the two internal assessments students will be required to complete a written examination and a set task which is to be completed during a defined window determined by the examination board and externally assessed.

The two year BTEC Extended Certificate, completed in Year 13, is recognised as equivalent to one A Level and attracts UCAS points as such. BTEC Nationals are career-based qualifications designed to give students the skills they need to move on to higher education or go straight into employment.

Entry Requirements

Eight or more GCSEs at grades 9-4, including grade 5 in English and Mathematics. If you have studied GCSE or BTEC Level 2 Business, you should have achieved a minimum Grade 5 or merit.

A Level Economics (EDEXCEL)

Overview

Economics encourages the development and understanding of economic concepts and theories through considering current economic issues and problems that affect everyday life.

Studying economics gives an applied understanding of a wide range of current issues, from the effectiveness of government policy, to the causes of poverty in developing countries. Not only does the course allow the transfer of knowledge, it provides opportunities for skills to be developed and put into practice. Research skills, data analysis, problem solving, communication and working with others, are all important in the study of Economics.

Students will apply, analyse and evaluate different concepts and theories with the aim of appreciating their value and limitations in explaining real-world events. The course provides opportunities to explore data from local, national and international sources, enhancing the ability to develop a critical approach to economic models and methods of enquiry.

Entry Requirements

Eight or more GCSEs at grades 9-4 including a minimum grade 6 in English and Mathematics. If Economics has been studied at GCSE, a minimum Grade 6 is required.

THE FACULTY OF

English and Media

A Level English Literature (EDEXCEL)

Overview

English Literature is a highly academic course designed to enrich the literary appreciation and cultural awareness of all students. Students are taught in seminar-style classes, with lessons utilising a variety of different strategies building on the independent reading and research completed outside of the lesson. Across the challenging content, students develop their presentation and delivery, their critical understanding and evaluative skills alongside their clarity and precision in writing.

Students will read across various time periods, styles of writing and genres, from the older traditions of English literature to twenty-first century texts. The work produced ranges from detailed close analysis of the micro-elements of poetry and drama to comparing different novels – exploring the intersections of time periods, geography, class and gender. The course teaches students the skills to read well, to be critical, to form strict academic arguments and to be articulate, all of which are extremely important for university study.

Entry Requirements

Eight or more GCSEs at grades 9-4, including a minimum grade 6 in English Language and Literature.

A Level Media Studies (EDUQAS)

Overview

The aim of the course is to enhance students' engagement and appreciation of the media and its role in their daily lives, to develop a critical understanding of the media and to explore production processes, technologies and contexts.

Over the course, students study a range of modules and they will sit two exams based on the taught content and complete one coursework module which is a practical production. The practical production uses the very latest technology including professional, SLR digital cameras and a fully functioning Mac editing suite equipped with the full range of Adobe Creative Suite programmes such as Photoshop, InDesign, Fireworks and Final Cut Pro to create their own fully realised media products.

Entry Requirements

Eight or more GCSEs at grades 9-4 including a minimum grade 6 in GCSE English Language.

If you have studied GCSE or BTEC Level 2 Media, you should have achieved a minimum Grade 6 or merit.

A Level Film Studies (EDUQAS)

Overview

Film studies takes an analytic approach to the studying of the film medium and focuses on the skills of visual literacy in the context of Film.

The course studies a range of directors, such as Spike Lee, the Coen Brothers, and Tarantino, and has a practical element of coursework. Students can choose from making a film or writing a short script. Students can submit their work to national film competitions, and use for a portfolio. Students also attend study days at the BFI and practise skills, such as making small documentaries/ or music videos.

Entry Requirements

Eight or more GCSEs at grades 9-4 including grade 6 in English Language.

If you have studied GCSE or BTEC Level 2 Film Studies, you should have achieved a minimum Grade 6 or merit.

THE FACULTY OF Humanities

A Level Geography (OCR)

Overview

Geography challenges opinions, broadens the mind and sharpens key skills. Few subjects can boast the same breadth and contemporary relevance.

The specification has been designed to allow geographers the flexibility to build programmes that suit their own particular interests and needs using a range of approaches. Those geographers with interests in distinct physical, human and environmental approaches will be able to use this specification, as will those with more integrated specialisms. Fieldwork and research skills are a key feature.

All units allow a balance between students' own particular physical, human and/or environmental interests and key geographical topics that will provide the knowledge, understanding and skills for further study at higher education or for employment. Geography leads to a wide range of career opportunities. These include environmental consultancy, international development work, law, marketing, urban regeneration and TV research.

Entry Requirements

Eight or more GCSEs at grades 9-4, as well as a minimum grade 6 in Geography and English Language.

A Level Government and Politics (EDEXCEL)

Overview

Through studying Government and Politics students will research the key processes in governing the UK & USA and analyse the advantages and disadvantages of them.

Students will discover how the key concepts in politics, such as justice, freedom or equality, are contested and gain a broad understanding of such important issues as democracy, political participation, justice, civil liberties and elitism.

When students study Politics, they will be taught not what to think, but how to think:

- how to gather relevant information and articulate arguments in a logical and clear fashion
- how to deepen your understanding of a range of political institutions and workings
- how to form independent judgements about some of the major controversies of our age.

Entry Requirements

Eight or more GCSEs at grades 9-4, including a grade 6 or above in a Humanities subject and English Language.

A Level History (AQA)

Overview

The study of History helps to develop the skills to look beyond the headlines, to ask questions properly, and to express opinions – skills now regarded as essential in industry. Historians solve problems and evaluate solutions.

History involves not only the reconstruction and interpretation of the past, but the development of the critical skills necessary to unlocking its secrets and explaining them to others. These include a range of interpretive skills relating to texts, data, visual and audio sources, the ability to construct, evaluate and criticise arguments and effective presentation of findings.

A Level History is well regarded by employers because it is academically rigorous and can be relied upon to produce students who are literate and likely to be independent thinkers.

Entry Requirements

Eight or more GCSEs at grades 9-4, as well as a minimum grade 6 in English Language and History.

A Level Psychology (AQA)

Overview

Psychology is the scientific study of the mind and human behaviour. Students considering taking Psychology need to be curious and enjoy thinking about questions such as: How does memory work? Why do people have fears about common (and sometimes strange) objects? How do other people influence our behaviour? What is normal? Why do some people get more stressed than others?

Studying Psychology allows a better understanding of the human mind and how everyday behaviour is influenced by the world around us. It will enable the development of critical thinking and evaluative skills and the understanding of many social, scientific and contemporary issues involved in our daily life.

Entry Requirements

Eight or more GCSEs at grades 9-4 including a minimum grade 6 in English Language and Mathematics, and either a 6-6 in Combined Science or a 6 in Biology.

A Level Sociology (OCR)

Overview

Sociology is the study of society and of human behaviour. Sociology attempts to study a range of social issues such as the media, culture and identity, social inequalities, education and globalisation.

Students will become knowledgeable and understand concepts, theories and topical subject matter, but will also be able to analyse, criticise and evaluate the way in which societies function.

By utilising the knowledge and skills on this course, students should be able to take a more informed and critical look at many aspects of all societies and how they relate to people's lives. This will also empower the development of transferable skills in informed debate and critical analysis.

The specification gives a broad overview of Sociology, while requiring the study of certain topics in great depth.

Entry Requirements

Eight or more GCSEs at grades 9-4 including a minimum grade 6 in English Language and a Humanities subject.

THE FACULTY OF

ICT and Computer Science

BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Information and Computer Technology (EDEXCEL)

Overview

ICT has become a vital part of society and underpins major aspects of our everyday lives. This BTEC involves both theoretical and practical study of computer and ICT related topics. It is an exciting course that includes a wide range of units designed to provide an excellent understanding of ICT specialisms and platform for students wishing to progress towards a higher education or enter the world of work in IT.

Over the two year programme, students will cover topics such as Information Technology Systems, Creating Systems to Manage Information (synoptic), Using Social Media in Business and Website Development. The flexibility of the course structure also allows the qualification to be tailored to meet interests and aspirations. In addition to the two internal assessed units, students will be required to complete a written examination and a set task (controlled assessment) which is to be completed during a defined window determined by the examination board and externally assessed.

Students will develop and use both technical and transferable skills such as communication, analysis, and evaluation. Students will also have the opportunity to work with others to analyse, design and implement ICT solutions across a range of vocational scenarios.

The two year BTEC Extended Certificate, completed in Year 13, is recognised as equivalent to one A Level and attract UCAS points as such.

Entry Requirements

Eight or more GCSEs at grades 9-4, including a grade 5 in English Language and Mathematics. If you have studied GCSE or BTEC Level 2 ICT/Computing, you should have achieved a minimum grade 5 or merit.

Any prior ICT skills or knowledge will be beneficial.

A Level Computer Science (OCR)

Overview

Computer Science is a subject that can be applied to all career paths and many aspects of life. Computer science has brought us 3D printing in the engineering industry, AI has brought us manufacturing robots and domestic robots, home security is dominated by computer science and let's not forget the most popular piece of technology... smart phones!

The Computing A Level is a popular qualification accepted by top universities. It is a subject that suits someone with a highly logical and analytical mind and is favoured by those who are strong in the Mathematics and Sciences. Computing is a module that is offered in many degrees courses, including Engineering, Mathematics, Medicine, Accountancy and Business. It is both a practical and useful subject to have under your belt.

Some of the topics included in this course include:

- Processors
- Input, output and storage devices
- Software and software development
- Exchanging data
- Algorithms
- Data types and Structures
- Legal, moral, cultural and ethical issues surrounding systems
- Computational thinking
- Problem Solving and programming

Entry Requirements

Eight or more GCSEs Grades 9-4, including a grade 5 in English Language and a grade 6 in Mathematics.

Grade 6 in GCSE Computer Science if studied at GCSE.

THE FACULTY OF Mathematics

A Level Mathematics (EDEXCEL)

Overview

Mathematics is a popular choice with students and builds on topics encountered at GCSE. However, it is important to emphasise that it must be enjoyed to consider it as an A Level subject; students should get a kick out of solving problems correctly and enjoy a challenge.

This specification gives a broad overview of what Mathematics is about and also requires the study of various topics in depth.

In the first year, students study Pure Mathematics and Applied Mathematics (Statistics and Mechanics). In the second year, students study Pure Mathematics further and study Mechanics and Statistics in even greater depth.

At Hammersmith Academy, Mathematics is a valued activity beyond the requirements of the syllabus. Every year students are entered for the UKMT Maths Challenge.

Entry Requirements

Eight or more GCSEs at grades 9-4 including a minimum grade 7 in Mathematics.

Core Mathematics (AQA)

Overview

This is equivalent to an AS. Students who are a grade below the Mathematics entry requirement in subjects such as Psychology, Computer Science, Geography, Business and Economics can take the subject on the condition that they also take Core Mathematics.

Entry Requirements

This is considered on an individual basis during enrolment.

A Level Further Mathematics (EDEXCEL)

Overview

Further Mathematics is an excellent choice alongside mathematics for someone who enjoys mathematics, it provides a challenge and a chance to explore new and more sophisticated mathematical concepts.

As well as new learning new areas of pure mathematics you will study further applications of mathematics in mechanics, statistics and decision mathematics. If you are planning to take a degree such as Engineering, Sciences, Computing, Finance/Economics, etc., or perhaps Mathematics itself, you will benefit enormously from taking Further Mathematics, at least to AS level. AS Further Mathematics introduces new topics such as matrices and complex numbers that are vital in many STEM degrees. Students who take Further Mathematics are really demonstrating a strong commitment to their studies, as well as learning mathematics that is very useful for any mathematically rich degree.

This is a two year course and Further Mathematics will take up two choices of the options block.

Entry Requirements

Eight or more GCSEs at grades 9-4 including a minimum grade 8 in Mathematics.

THE FACULTY OF

Modern Foreign Languages

A Level Spanish (AQA)

Overview

Learning an additional language is an invaluable skill and can lead to many opportunities. The AS and A Level courses are exciting courses designed to immerse students not just in the traditional grammatical elements of the language, but also provide them with an insight into the culture and society where those languages are spoken.

These courses explore:

- Grammar
- Aspects of Hispanic society
- Artistic culture in the Hispanic world
- Multiculturalism in Hispanic society
- Aspects of political life in Hispanic countries
- A critical study of the concepts and issues covered in a film and a book and a critical and analytical response to features such as the form and the technique of presentation, as appropriate to the work studied (e.g. the effect of narrative voice in a prose text or camera work in a film).
- An independent research on an area of your choice.

Throughout the course, students will use online resources, newspapers, books and other authentic materials in the target language. Assessment tasks will be varied and cover listening, speaking, reading and writing skills.

Entry Requirements

Eight or more GCSEs at grades 9-4 including a minimum grade 6 in Spanish.

THE FACULTY OF

Physical Education

BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Sport (EDEXCEL)

Overview

The Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma in Sport is a two-year programme. The course combines practical sports activity with academic study, giving students the opportunity to combine sport and recreation units.

Four units are studied over the two years: three of these are mandatory units and are fundamental to the programme. These are unit 1 (Anatomy and Physiology), unit 2 (Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Well-being) and unit 3 (Professional Development in the Sport Industry). The remaining unit is classed as an optional unit which allow specialisation in the unit which best suits the cohort of students. This allows the development of knowledge and skills in a variety of specialist areas, including the body in action and sports performance. It also offers the opportunity to engage practical skills and sporting knowledge in a variety of exercise settings. Units 1 and 2 are externally assessed, with unit 1 being a full exam and unit 2 a controlled assessment on pre-released case studies. Units 3 and the optional unit are internally assessed through assignments.

The two year BTEC Extended Certificate, completed in Year 13, is recognised as equivalent to one A Level and attract UCAS points as such.

Entry Requirements

Eight or more GCSEs at grades 9-4 including grade 5 in English Language and Mathematics, as well as a minimum grade 5 in Physical Education or Sport or grade 5-5 in Combined Science.

THE FACULTY OF Science

A Level Biology (AQA)

Overview

Biology is one of the most challenging and rewarding A Level courses. Continual developments in genetics, cellular and molecular biology make this an exciting field of study. Biology is always in the headlines. A popular A Level subject, it attracts students that study a wide range of other subjects.

Biology provides students with solid foundation knowledge and understanding of key biological processes. Starting at the cellular level, students will study the components of cells as well as their role in respiration, protein production, enzyme action and DNA replication. Some key systems are also studied in detail, including the respiratory and circulatory systems of a number of different organisms. In addition, students also study the hierarchical relationships between organisms, how they are related and their mating behaviour.

Students who enjoy the subject can eventually choose a biologically related degree course and others may go on to careers in law, computing, accounting or teaching. Whatever field you eventually work in, you will find this course will help you to develop many of the skills essential for a successful career.

Entry Requirements for Biology

Eight or more GCSEs at grades 9-4 including a minimum grade 6 at GCSE in Biology or 6-6 in GCSE Combined Science or 5-5-6 in Triple Science (with a 6 in Biology).

Applicants must have a grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics, and grade 6 in GCSE English Language.

A Level Chemistry (EDEXCEL)

Overview

Chemistry is known as 'the central science', and is a challenging A Level subject that uses mathematical and linguistic skills to explain the interactions between energy and matter that surround us every day, from cooking our food, to the clothes we wear. In Chemistry students learn a range of crucial experimental techniques such as titration, distillation, observational practical skills, and qualitative practical skills. They then build on these foundations and focus on applying these skills and their knowledge to solving both practical and theoretical problems.

In a time of many qualifications competing for recognition, Chemistry remains one of the A Levels regarded most highly by top universities. Students who succeed in chemistry can go on to further study in a variety of courses due to chemistry's 'central' nature. Many of the more recent advances in biomedical and engineering sciences lean heavily on chemistry, but this qualification is also indicative of broader analytical and problem-solving skills that could lead to careers in such diverse fields as the law, financial services or the media.

Entry Requirements for Chemistry

Eight or more GCSEs at grades 9-4 including a minimum grade 6 at GCSE in Chemistry or 6-6 in GCSE Combined Science or 5-5-6 in Triple Science (with a 6 in Chemistry).

Applicants must have a grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics, and grade 6 in GCSE English Language.

A Level Physics (OCR)

Overview

Physics is the study of how our universe works, its rules and mechanics, and the scientific techniques which lie behind great discoveries.

This specification has been developed for students who wish to continue with a study of Physics after GCSE. The course will prepare students to progress into higher education, to follow courses in physics, engineering, one of the other sciences or related subjects, or to enter employment where a knowledge of physics would be useful.

While the teaching of practical skills may be integrated with the theoretical topics, they are assessed separately.

Entry Requirements for Physics

Eight or more GCSEs at grades 9-4 including a minimum grade 6 at GCSE in Physics or 6-6 in GCSE Combined Science or 5-5-6 in Triple Science (with a 6 in Physics).

Applicants must have a grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics, and grade 6 in GCSE English Language.

BTEC Applied Science (AQA)

Overview

The BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Applied Science is for students seeking an A-level standard science qualification who are interested in learning about the applied science sector alongside other fields of study, with a view to progressing to a wide range of higher education courses. Over 95% of universities (including Russell Group) and a wide range of employers value BTEC qualifications. This two-year course leads to a qualification equivalent in weight to one A Level. It consists of four units, two of which are externally assessed (exams), and two internally assessed (coursework).

Students will study across all three sciences: biology, chemistry, and physics covering topics including: how the structure, bonding, and properties of substances relate to their uses; structure and function of cells and the tissue they make up; the energy content of fuels; movement and behaviour of molecules including enzymes; electrical circuits; electromagnetic waves and communication; various practical techniques and uses of scientific instruments; amongst many other fascinating areas of cutting edge science.

Entry Requirements for Applied Science

Eight or more GCSEs at grades 9-4 including a minimum 5-5 in GCSE Combined Science or 5-5-4 in Triple Science.

Applicants must have a grade 5 in GCSE Mathematics, and grade 5 in GCSE English Language.

HOW TO APPLY

Sixth Form Application Form

The online application form can be completed on the Academy's website by visiting <https://hammersmithacademy.appicaa.com/year12>.

- Students can start their application and return to complete it once they have registered an account.
- External applicants must have a reference request returned by their referee in order for the application to be considered.
- Priority will be given to applications that meet the application deadline. Applications after the deadline will still be considered but will be treated as a late application.



Acceptance

Applicants wishing to accept their offer from Hammersmith Academy must do so by 30th April 2024 on the online application portal.

Further Information

For further information please contact the Sixth Form Team by email to post16@hammersmithacademy.org or by calling 020 8222 6000.

Full information about how to apply to our Sixth Form can be found on the following webpage:

www.hammersmithacademy.org/sixth-form/apply-here/

Applications will be accepted from 1st October 2023

Closing Date for External Applicants: 31st January 2024

Closing Date for Internal Applicants: 31st October 2023

Interviews

External applicants will be invited to interview based on their application. Those invited will be interviewed by a member of the Senior Leadership Team or Sixth Form Team as part of the application process.

Interview Date for External Applicants:
Starting Week Commencing Monday 4th March 2023

Offers

Applicants who have been successful will receive an offer email from the Sixth Form Team with details of their conditional offer.

Conditional Offer Date for External Applicants: 31st March 2024

Conditional Offer Date for Internal Applicants: 30th April 2024





“One of the most helpful aspects of HA is the opportunities that are handed to students on a silver platter. Once a week we were fortunate enough to have an extremely successful and inspirational person come in to give a talk to the Sixth Form students. This opportunity allowed students such as myself to gain advice that was very insightful with a personal touch.”

Fatima Mohamed, Sixth Form Alumnus

"I tell everyone I meet, literally, if you want a place that will offer you the most of life in terms of opportunities – HA's the one."

Vanessa Bordignon, Sixth Form Alumnus





HA are proud to be part of the Jack Petchey Achievement Award Scheme, a reward and recognition initiative which enables schools and youth organisations to celebrate the achievements of their young people as well as receive additional funding.



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