RAYNES
PARK SIXTH FORM

COURSE INFORMATION BOOKLET

SEPTEMBER 2019

Respect
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Results

RAYNES

PARK SIXTH FORM

Course Information Booklet

2019

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Welcome

Raynes Park High School Sixth Form Course Guide

Welcome to Raynes Park High School Sixth Form (RPHS). This guide is intended to be a brief introduction to the wide range of subjects that we are offering from September 2019. Many of the subjects contained within these pages will be new to you, some will be more familiar; however all subjects at Advanced Level will be different to how you imagine them to be. It is, therefore, really important that you see all teachers of the subjects you are interested in and ask them about the content and demands of each course in detail.

You will be able to choose up to four subjects depending upon your GCSE results. You must ensure that as well as having a genuine interest in the course, you are also being realistic about your choices. Look carefully at the entry requirements for each subject. These have been determined based on our professional judgement and experience of what is required in order to be successful at Advanced Level—that is, to gain a grade A* to E.

Whilst many of our students take traditional Advanced Level courses, we offer several Cambridge National / Vocational courses which are examined partly through exams but mainly through coursework. Students who did not pass English and Maths GCSE have the opportunity to re-sit these alongside some Level 3 courses depending upon their strengths and individual circumstances.

All students will be interviewed by a member of the Sixth Form Team. We believe that it is vital for all students to have the chance to discuss their subject choices so that we can ensure they are following the most appropriate pathway.

If you have any queries regarding the Sixth Form, please contact me on jlawner@raynespark.merton.sch.uk or 020 8879 4807.

Jane Lawner

Ms Lawner
Director of Sixth Form

Choices

National changes to A Levels

From September 2015, A Levels in all subjects have become linear. This means that all exams are taken at the end of two years of study. AS Levels will continue as separate qualifications but the marks from them will no longer count towards the final A Level.

We will be doing our own rigorous assessment in the first year of A Level study to ensure students are prepared for their A2 exams.

Vocational Level 3 courses have also changed, many used to assessed through 100% coursework however the new vocational courses have exam elements to the assessments.

What choices do I have to make?

The first decision you need to make is which level of study is most appropriate for you. In order to study subjects at Advanced Level you need to have achieved 5 9 - 5 including Maths and English and have met the specific entry requirements of the subjects you wish to study. Advanced Levels are the next step up from GCSE and other Level 2 qualifications. They are far more demanding and academically challenging than Level 2 qualifications and are also required in order to progress into Higher Education (universities).

Level 3 — Advanced Level Course

On your application form you need to select at least three subjects that you wish to study at Advanced Level. Please also choose a reserve subject in case your choices cannot be accommodated on the timetable.

Level 3 — BTEC Subsidiary Diplomas / Cambridge Nationals

We offer a range of vocational courses. These courses are examined through portfolio work and they now have an exam component. Students gain a Distinction*, Distinction, Merit or Pass in these courses rather than Grades A*-E.

Level 2 Courses

We offer retake GCSE Maths and / or GCSE English. Students benefit from Personal Social Education (PSE) / Tutor Time and Enrichment Activities. We also provide work experience placements linked to students future career interests.

Home Language

Students can be entered for A Levels in their home language. E.g. Arabic, French, German, Italian, Polish, Russian, Spanish, Urdu.
For further information please contact Ms Lawner, Head of Sixth Form

What else is part of my entitlement at RPHS?

The following are an essential element of Sixth Form entitlement for Advanced Level students:

Careers Information and Guidance - Personal development with careers focus leading to the completion of Employment and High Education applications (UCAS).

PSE/Tutor Time - A daily tutor period of 20 minutes includes activities such as study skills, critical thinking, current affairs and a weekly Assembly.

Enrichment Activities - All students are given the opportunity to take part once a week in a range of individual and team sporting and other appropriate enrichment activities.

Extended Project Qualification – An award for an independent project undertaken by a student. This project has UCAS points broadly equivalent to an AS Level.

Work Experience - All Year 12 students undertake at least one week of Work Experience in the Summer term.

Course Entry Requirements

All Level 3 subjects require a minimum entry of 5 Grades 9 - 5 at GCSE including the equivalent in English Language and Mathematics.

LEVEL 3 SUBJECT	ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
Biology (A Level)	Grade 6 Biology GCSE or 2 grade 6's in Science Higher tier / Grade 6 or equivalent in Maths and English
Business (A Level)	5 or equivalent in Maths and English
Applied Business Studies (A Level)	5 or equivalent in Maths and English GCSE
Chemistry (A Level)	Grade 6 in Chemistry GCSE or 2x6 in combined Science at higher tier / Grade 6 or equivalent Maths and English
Dance (BTEC)	5 GCSEs grades 9-4 with at least a 4 grade in Dance
Drama (A Level)	Grade 6 in Chemistry GCSE or 2x6 in double Science/ Grade 6 or equivalent Maths and English
English Literature (A Level)	5 L9-4 including Maths and English with a grade 6 or equivalent in English Language and Literature.
Fine Art (A Level)	5 Grade 9 - 5 with at least a Grade 5 in Art
Geography (A Level)	5 GCSEs at Grade 5 and above (including 6s and above in English and Geography)
Health and Social Care (OCR Cambridge Technicals)	GCSE grade 4 or equivalent in Maths and English and level 2 pass Health and Social Care if taken.
History (A Level)	5 GCSEs at 5 and above (including 6 and above in English and History)
Information Technology (Cambridge Technicals)	5 GCSE grades 9-4 with at least the equivalent of a grade 4 in Maths or ICT/Computer Science at KS4.
Mathematics (A Level)	Grade 6 or above at GCSE level. All Grade 6 or equivalent students will be expected to attend an additional weekly booster programme.
Further Mathematics (A Level)	Grades 7-8 or equivalent at GCSE level and you must be studying A Level Mathematics.
Media (A Level)	5 Grade 5+ GCSEs including a Grade 5 or above in Media or English
Photography (A Level)	6 in Art/Photography GCSE or related subject
Physical Education (A Level)	At least a grade 6 in both GCSE Sciences and GCSE PE
Physics (A Level)	2 Grade 6's at GCSE Science at higher tier and a Grade 6 in English and Maths GCSE
Psychology (A Level)	2 Grade 6's in combined Science and a grade 6 or equivalent in Maths and English
Applied Science (BTEC Extended Certificate)	4x Grade 4 or equivalent including Science and Maths or English GCSE
Sociology (A Level)	5 GCSEs grades 9-5 (including English and Maths grade 5 or equivalent)
Spanish (A Level)	Grade 6 or above at GCSE or native speaker of Spanish
Sport (Cambridge Technicals)	5 GCSE Grade 9 -4 with at least Grade 4 in Sport or PE or relevant experience

Course Descriptions

GCSE Retakes
We offer re-takes for Maths and English only.

BTEC Certificate (Level 3)
The first year of the BTEC course with equivalence to AS Levels.

BTEC Extended Diploma (Level 3)
The second year of the BTEC course with equivalence to an A Level

OCR Cambridge Technicals (Level 3)
A vocational course which is coursework based.

AS Levels (Level 3)
A stand-alone course for some subjects and for others the first year of a two year course

A Levels (Level 3)
A two year course that may be both exam and coursework based.

Applying for university, higher education or further education is challenging. We will give significant support by means of focussed drop down days, Higher Education and Finance Information Evenings, Interviews practice, Careers Seminars, UCAS Fair, individual UCAS preparation interviews and support with Open Days and Summer Schools. The Sixth Form also has a well-stocked Further Education / Higher Education Careers Library.

Advanced Courses - Level 3

We are pleased to be able to offer a wide range of Level 3 programmes. It is expected that students who follow this programme will take two years to gain the entry criteria for University.

Initial decisions about course offers will be made after interviews taking into account Pre Public Exams (PPE) results and teacher predicted grades.

Final decisions about course offers will be made with students and their parents during enrolment at which time final results will be available.

We reserve the right to direct a student either towards or away from a particular course if it is felt to be in the student's best interest. Courses and/or subjects may also have to be withdrawn in the light of resource implications (for example, if only one or two students choose a particular option subject it is unlikely that the course will run).

A LEVEL BIOLOGY

Why study this subject?	Biology is the study of life. At RPHS Sixth Form, students study the many concepts contained within this definition, including anatomy, physiology, botany, microbiology, biochemistry and biotechnology. We aim to enable students to develop an empathy with the environment we live in and to recognise the value of Biology in society. The course enables students to develop skills in experimental techniques including design, observation, data handling and evaluating skills. The practical element of the course involves a range of different biological techniques such as microscopy, biochemical testing, chromatography and other laboratory skills. Practical elements are incorporated into the course at all available opportunities. At A2 Level, students also study genetics, ecology, neuroscience and homeostasis. Throughout the course students are encouraged to 'learn through doing' rather than just listening to teacher explanations and considerable use is made of ICT.	
What topics/units will I cover and learn in this subject?	**AS Level** 1 Biological molecules 2 Cells 3 Organisms exchange substances with their environment 4 Genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms **A Level** 5 Energy transfers in and between organisms 6 Organisms respond to changes in their internal and external environments 7 Genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems 8 The control of gene expression	
Entry Criteria	Acceptance onto the course requires a minimum of **two Grade 6 at GCSE Science at Higher tier or Grade 6 Biology GCSE.** Students need a secure understanding of Chemistry and Biology to succeed on these courses. It is also crucial that students can demonstrate an awareness of ethical issues and how biology relates to current social developments. Finally, a good grasp of mathematical concepts is required, alongside good literacy and so students will also need a **Grade 6 in Maths and English GCSE.**	
Which exam board and specification is it?	AQA	
How will I be assessed?	**Internally**	**Externally**
	On-going teacher assessment for each topic, through assessment for learning tasks	Through three external exams: Paper 1: Topics 1-4, 2 hours, 35% of exam. Paper 2: Topics 5-8, 2 hours, 35% of exam. Paper 3: Topics 1-8, 2 hours, 30% of exam.
When will I be assessed?	Ongoing internal assessment throughout the course. External linear examinations May/June for both AS and A level	
What activities can I expect to do in this subject as part of the learning and assessment?	Practical experiments, presentations, ICT work, past examination questions, essays and written examinations.	
Will I need any special / different equipment?	Scientific calculator, Biology textbook, Revision Guide, Biozone workbook	
What careers and university courses does this link to?	Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary science, Nursing, Journalism, Physiotherapy, Law, Biotechnology, Journalism, Politics, Agriculture, Dietetics, Conservation, Economics, Forensic science, Animal behaviourist and Psychologist	
Is there anything else I need to know?	This course is ideal for those students wishing to pursue a career in Science. You are expected to be in lessons 100% of the time.	
Where would I get any further information from?	http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/as-and-a-level/chemistry-7404-7405 You can contact Ms Burkin who is the Head of Science if you would like further information: kburkin@raynespark.merton.sch.uk	

OCR Technicals Business Extended Certificate

Why study this subject?	Do you imagine your future as self-employed or in a managerial position? Business Studies might be the subject for you! Business Studies can give you the tools and information required to understand how businesses are created, managed and become successful. The OCR Technicals course is very similar to the Business A-level, so you learn a great deal about budgeting and financial stability. It is a great attribute on your CV, it shows future employers you understand how a business works, so you may be considered for higher positions. Business Studies also opens up a variety of career opportunities and also for further study at college or university. You will understand the legal, financial, ethical and resource constraints under which a business must operate and how these can affect business behaviour. You will explore ways in which businesses respond to changes in their economic, social and technological environment, and the necessity for a business to plan. You will appreciate the influence different stakeholders can have on a business, and you will learn how to assess business performance.	
What topics/units will I cover and learn in this subject?	Unit 1 The Business Environment Unit 2 Working in Business Unit 4 Customers and Communication + 2 optional units	
Entry Criteria	Grade 5 in Maths and English. You do not have to have studied Business at GCSE level but it would be advantageous if you have. If you have studied GCSE Business Studies, you will be required to have at least a grade 5.	
Which exam board and specification is it?	OCR Technical Cambridge 2016 Specification	
How will I be assessed?	**Internally – 2 pieces of coursework over 2 years**	**Externally – 1 piece of c/work and 2 exams**
	Half termly tests, regular key word tests, assessment activities. You will have set deadlines for each unit so you must ensure you meet the course requirements 2 further units of coursework will also be completed and internally assessed.	Unit 1 (Exam) Unit 2 (Exam) Unit 4 (coursework)
When will I be assessed?	You will be assessed every half term, either by completing your assignment work or by examination preparation. You will sit the Unit 1 examination in January and your assignments will be completed alongside this study.	
What activities can I expect to do in this subject as part of the learning and assessment?	Business Studies is taught as actively and innovatively as possible. A range of activities are provided from a wide range of sources. Examination preparation is essential so these skills will be developed along with improving examination technique and subject knowledge via regular key word tests. Students can expect independent study and research tasks. The business world changes almost on a daily basis, so it is imperative that students actively participate in wider reading. Reading good quality broadsheet newspapers, The Economist, as well as watching the BBC news or Channel 4 news on a daily basis, will aid students understanding of key concepts. The analysis of newspaper articles is one part of the required homework tasks.	
Will I need any special / different equipment?	Reading a good newspaper (The Times, Guardian) would be highly recommended. Keeping abreast of business news and changes is essential.	
What careers and university courses does this link to?	This qualification, combined with other qualifications, will provide learners with the skills, knowledge and understanding to progress into Higher Education (HE) on a business-related programme such as Business, Business Management, Marketing, Business and Finance, Business and Economics and Accounting.	
Is there anything else I need to know?	There is a lot of new vocabulary which, in order to be successful in examinations, must be learnt. In addition the examination requires you to write extended answers (12-16 marks) so you must be prepared to learn how to write essay answers. You also must be prepared to complete independent work outside of lessons and meet all deadlines set. A high level of attendance is essential.	
Where would I get any further information from?	Please see Ms Sandhu in Sixth Form (SG2) for further information. rsandhu@raynespark.merton.sch.uk	

A LEVEL CHEMISTRY

Why study this subject?	Throughout the course, candidates are introduced to the ideas of chemistry and their application to a variety of contexts, both every day and more specialised. Their understanding of how science works in chemistry is deepened. The specification thus provides a valuable education for candidates who take chemistry or related subjects further. It is also an excellent foundation for further study of chemistry, medicine (and related subjects such as pharmacy and pharmacology) or other sciences.	
What topics/units will I cover and learn in this subject?	At AS level 3.1 Physical chemistry, 3.2 Inorganic chemistry, 3.3 Organic chemistry At A level 3.1 Physical chemistry, 3.2 Inorganic chemistry, 3.3 Organic chemistry but all units will be covered in much more depth	
Entry Criteria	Acceptance onto the course requires Grade 6 in Chemistry GCSE or 2x6 in double Science and Grade 6 in Maths and English. Students need a secure understanding of Chemistry and Mathematics to succeed at AS. It is also crucial that students can demonstrate an awareness of ethical issues and how Chemistry relates to current social developments. Finally, a good grasp of mathematical concepts is required and so you will need a **Grade 6 in English and Maths GCSE**	
Which exam board and specification is it?	AQA	
How will I be assessed?	**Internally**	**Externally**
	On-going teacher assessment for each topic, through assessment for learning tasks	Through three external exams: Paper 1: Physical/Inorganic, 2 hours, 35% of exam. Paper 2: Physical/Organic, 2 hours, 35% of exam. Paper 3: All content, 2 hours, 30% of exam.
When will I be assessed?	On-going internal assessment will take place throughout the course. The other units will assessed via external linear exams which will take place in May/June.	
What activities can I expect to do in this subject as part of the learning and assessment?	Students will be expected to undertake practicals to support understanding of reaction mechanisms and build on how Science works skills. In addition, many tasks will involve calculating theoretical or actual masses or concentrations of chemicals used in reaction. All of this will be done in preparation for exams. Students will need to do independent work to consolidate their ideas on chemical theories.	
Will I need any special / different equipment?	A Scientific calculator, Chemistry handbook, Chemistry textbook, Revision Guide.	
What careers and university courses does this link to?	Chemistry, Chemical Sciences, Medicine and Medial Sciences including Pharmacy, Dentistry, Vet Sciences and other science fields such as Chemical Engineering.	
Is there anything else I need to know?	This course is ideal for those students wishing to pursue a career in Science. You are expected to be in lessons 100% of the time. If you miss a lesson it will not be repeated. It is your responsibility to ensure that all work is caught up on including all class work tasks and homework. Homework will be set twice a week by each teacher and you will normally be given a week to complete the tasks.	
Where would I get any further information from?	http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/as-and-a-level/chemistry-7404-7405 You can contact Ms Burkin who is the Head of Science if you would like further information: kburkin@raynespark.merton.sch.uk	

BTEC DANCE

Why study this subject?	If you are considering a future pathway in the Performing Arts Industry. This qualification will lead onto other vocational options Post 16 and at Higher Education Institutes. It can also be done as a standalone subject if the learner is simply interested in dance and would like to pursue that interest to get a level 3 qualification.		
What topics/units will I cover and learn in this subject?	The course is made up of 4 units which focus on a variety of areas such as choreography, performance, critical analysis and physical fitness. Out of the 4 different units, 2 of these are externally assessed and the other two are assessed by the teacher. This course is made up of both practical and theory elements. You will need to study the following units; Unit 1: Investigation Practitioners work- This is a theory unit where you will analyse and evaluate professional dance works; you will get to go on trips to see these live performances. Unit 2: Developing Skills and Techniques for Live Performance- This is a practical unit where you will develop your technique in different dance styles and perform to live audiences. Unit 3: Group Performance workshop- This is practical unit, where you will work together as a group and choreograph dances to different themes. You will also be able to study a variety of dance styles such as jazz, contemporary and street dance.		
Entry Criteria	5 GCSEs grades 9-4 with at least a 4 grade in Dance		
Which exam board and specification is it?	Edexcel BTEC L3 Subsidiary Diploma in Performing Arts (Dance)	Qualification type?	BTEC L3 Subsidiary Diploma in Performing Arts (Dance)
How will I be assessed?	Internally	Externally	
	Throughout the course. Units of work will be completed to pre-set deadlines	2 units	
When will I be assessed?	Continuous throughout the course.		
What activities can I expect to do in this subject as part of the learning and assessment?	Practical dance performance as well as the study and performance of different dance styles. Analysis of your own and others' performance and exploring ways of improving performance. Selecting appropriate music and costumes if necessary. Analysing and evaluating different dance works.		
Will I need any special / different equipment?	No.		
What careers and university courses does this link to?	These level three courses can be used to gain entry to university to study either a foundation degree or an honours degree in a number of performing arts related subjects.		
Is there anything else I need to know?	No.		
Where would I get any further information from?	You can contact Mr Wilson-Boyle, Head of PE if you would like further information: cwilson-boyle@raynespark.merton.sch.uk For further information: https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-nationals/performing-arts-2016.html		

A LEVEL DRAMA & THEATRE

Why study this subject?	Students develop skills that are not just essential for drama but applicable to a wide range of higher education subjects and in the workplace. This course refines students' collaborative skills, their analytical thinking and their approach to research. Students grow in confidence and maturity as they successfully realise their own ideas. They learn to evaluate objectively and develop a sound appreciation of the influences that cultural and social contexts can have on decision making. Whatever the future holds, students of Drama and Theatre emerge with a toolkit of transferable skills preparing them for their next steps.	
What topics/units will I cover and learn in this subject?	There are 3 components to this course which are as follows: **Component 1- Drama and Theatre (40%)** This is assessed through a written exam at the end of year 13, in this exam you will demonstrate your knowledge and understanding of drama and theatre, you will study two set plays and discuss how you would direct specific sections of the scripts. Finally you will analysis and evaluate a live production showing your knowledge of a range of production values. **Component 2 - Creating original drama (30%)** In component 2 you will be given a range of stimuli to create your own production, you will be required to consider your set, costume, lighting and perform as an actor showing a range of practical skills. Your piece will also need to be directly influenced by one key practitioner. During your rehearsal process you will create a devising log, this will be a reflection on how your work changed and developed at significant moments in the process. **Component 3 - Making theatre (30%)** In this component you will explore three extracts from three set texts, the final extract will be performed as an assessed piece and must include the methodology of a prescribed practitioner. You will also write a reflective report analysing and evaluating the theatrical interpretation of the extracts explored.	
Entry Criteria	Drama and English GCSE, Grade 5	
Which exam board and specification is it?	AQA Drama and Theatre (7262)	
How will I be assessed?	**Internally**	**Externally**
	Your devised performance and devising log.	The scripted performance, your reflective report and the written exam.
When will I be assessed?	The written exam will be at the end of year13, the scripted and devised components will take place at the end of year12 and will carry forward into year13. You will also complete a mock exam for each component in year 12.	
What activities can I expect to do in this subject as part of the learning and assessment?	Role plays, research, creating and delivering presentations, memorising scripts, devising material, drama games, organising technical and dress rehearsals, going to the theatre, learning about a range of theatre practitioners, keeping rehearsals records, writing a devising and reflective log, reflecting and assessing others' work.	
Will I need any special / different equipment?	You will need to wear clothes you are comfortable in, particularly for sessions in physical theatre.	
What careers and university courses does this link to?	This directly links to a career as a performer. Various types of performance, such as stand-up comedy are explored in detail over the two year course, but acting is the predominant area. The course directly links to Acting and Drama courses at university, and links in well with English Literature courses.	
Is there anything else I need to know?	The success of this course depends on stamina and a good, working rapport with your fellow actors. You will need to plan time outside core hours rehearsing with the rest of the acting company.	
Where would I get any further information from?	http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/drama/a-level/drama-and-theatre-7262 Contact Teacher: Ms E Holledge (Head of Drama) eholledge@raynespark.merton.sch.uk	

A LEVEL ENGLISH LITERATURE

Why study this subject?	English Literature is a well-respected qualification which gives students a greater understanding of the history of the English language and the social, historical and political contexts in which the literature was created.
What topics/units will I cover and learn in this subject?	**Component 1: Drama 30% of the total qualification** Students study: • one Shakespeare play and one other drama from either tragedy or comedy - both texts may be selected from one or both of these categories. • a collection of essays and critical essays related to their selected Shakespeare play. Students' preparation is supported by *Shakespeare: A Critical Anthology – Tragedy* or *Shakespeare: A Critical Anthology – Comedy*. Written examination, lasting 2 hours. Open book – clean copies of the drama texts can be taken into the examination. **Component 2: Prose 20% of the total qualification** Students study: • Two prose texts from a chosen theme. At least **one** of the prose texts must be pre-1900. Written examination, lasting 1 hour. Open book – clean copies of the prose texts can be taken into the examination. **Component 3: Poetry 30% of the total qualification** Students will: • prepare for responding to an unseen modern poem, through study of poetic form, meaning, language style • study either a range of poetry from a literary period *or* a range of poetry by a named poet from within a literary period. Written examination, lasting 2 hours. • Open book – clean copies of the poetry texts can be taken into the examination. **Coursework 20% of the total qualification** Students have a free choice of two texts to study. • **One** extended comparative essay referring to two texts. *or* • **One** recreative piece on one literary text plus an analytical commentary AND one comparative essay referring to both texts Advisory total word count is 2500-3000 words.
Entry Criteria	Entry Criteria: 5 L9-4 including Maths and English with a grade 6 or equivalent in English Language and Literature.
Which exam board and specification is it?	Exam Board: Edexcel Specification: Pearson Edexcel Level 3 Advanced GCE in English Literature (9ET0) http://www.edexcel.com/quals/gce/gce15/eng-lit/Pages/default.aspx
How will I be assessed?	**Internally**: 20% **Externally**: 80%
When will I be assessed?	Weekly essays, coursework completed by April and exams in June.
What activities can I expect to do in this subject as part of the learning and assessment?	Learning: Centred round the principle that exploring the reading process is an interesting way to approach a range of literacy texts to find cultural meaning and to undertake critical review. This is assessed through weekly essays.
Will I need any special / different equipment?	You will need to purchase all of the texts on the course.
What careers and university courses does this link to?	Progression Pathways: English Literature or English. Other humanities including Research, Information Management, Law and Journalism or employment in Civil and Support Services.
Is there anything else I need to know?	N/A.
Where would I get any further information from?	Contact Teacher: Ms Scott, Head of English escott@raynespark.merton.sch.uk

A LEVEL FINE ART

Why study this subject?	The Fine Art course gives students exciting opportunities to develop a wide range of art skills as well as expressing their ideas and individuality through personal art work. The course prepares students for exciting Art and Design careers. Students will develop the skills needed to research and develop their thoughts independently. This course is ideal for students who have imagination, flair, are hardworking, independent and enjoy experimenting with a range of materials and expressing their ideas in a visual format.	
What topics/units will I cover and learn in this subject?	All projects are thematic which allows students to be independent and explore their ideas creatively. Through the projects students will develop their understanding and skills in how to: • Record ideas through drawing, photography and sculpture • Explore, develop and experiment with a range of media. • Research and investigate artists, designers, photographers and other cultures. • Develop and refine ideas using media and processes • Produce a final piece based on sketchbook work.	
Entry Criteria	5 Grade 9 - 5 with at least a 5 grade in Art	
Which exam board and specification is it?	AQA ARTB	
How will I be assessed?	**Internally**	**Externally**
	60% Coursework Portfolio AS: Coursework portfolio based on work set in lessons. A2: Coursework portfolio based on a personal investigation supported by written element of 1000-3000 words	40% Externally Set Assignment For the externally set assignment students will be given a choice of externally set themes to base preparatory studies on. During the AS students will take part in a practical 10 hour controlled assessment activity and a 15 hour end of project practical examination in A2
When will I be assessed?	Students will be assessed at the end of the course (May) based on their coursework portfolio and externally set assignment. Work is marked and moderated internally by teaching staff and a sample is also moderated externally.	
What activities can I expect to do in this subject as part of the learning and assessment?	The work produced in lessons and for homework will make up the coursework portfolio which is assessed. In AS students will take part in a series of practical workshops to build skills and will have also have the opportunity to develop ideas. During the A2 course students will choose their own theme to produce a body of work, they will also be expected to write a critical essay that relates to their practical work. The externally set assignment for AS and A2 is based on a choice of questions set by the exam board, students will produce a sketchbook of preparatory studies to support final outcomes.	
Will I need any special / different equipment?	It is extremely useful if students have a range of art materials at home in order for them to complete homework to the required standard. Starter Art packs are available to buy from the art department at minimum cost.	
What careers and university courses does this link to?	The course gives students entry into Foundation Diploma in Art and Design and art based degree courses including Photography, Graphics, Fashion, and Media Studies. The course will also teach students how to think creatively, develop independence alongside developing critical analysis and research skills	
Is there anything else I need to know?	The A Level course is a coursework based subject therefore there is an understanding that all work produced (including homework) will form part of the assessed coursework.	
Where would I get any further information from?	Contact Teacher: Head of Art and Design Ms C Curtis ccurtis@raynespark.merton.sch.uk www.aqa.org.uk	

A LEVEL GEOGRAPHY

Why study this subject?	Geography is about our changing world, pressures and risks for the future of our planet. You will be the decision-makers of the future, and geography will enable you to understand our complex planet and the issues facing populations today and in the future. Arguably one of the most employable subjects in what is a fast paced and ever changing world, the study of geography will equip you with knowledge and confidence to tackle everyday topics of debate, and also allow you to develop thinking which is analytical and balanced in order to form conclusions. This is a fantastic subject, taught by subject specialists both within the classroom and in the field through a 4 day field trip.
What topics/units will I cover and learn in this subject?	• Topic 1: Tectonic Processes and Hazards • Topic 2: Landscape Systems, Processes and Change – including optional sub-topics from which students choose one from two: 2A: Glaciated Landscapes and Change or 2B: Coastal Landscapes and Change • Topic 5: The Water Cycle and Water Insecurity • Topic 6: The Carbon Cycle and Energy Security
Entry Criteria	5 GCSEs at Grade 5 and above (including 6s and above in English and Geography)
Which exam board and specification is it?	Exam Board: EDEXCEL Specification: Pearson Edexcel Level 3 Advanced GCE in Geography (9GE0) 2016. Full 2 year A Level.
How and when will I be assessed?	**Paper 1** Written examination: 2 hours and 15 minutes ● Area of study 1, Topic 1: Tectonic Processes and Hazards ● Area of study 1, Topic 2: Landscape Systems, Processes and Change – including optional sub-topics from which students choose one from two: 2A: Glaciated Landscapes and Change or 2B: Coastal Landscapes and Change ● Area of study 3, Topic 5: The Water Cycle and Water Insecurity ● Area of study 3, Topic 6: The Carbon Cycle and Energy Security **Paper 2** Written examination: 2 hours and 15 minutes ● Area of study 2, Topic 3: Globalisation ● Area of study 2, Topic 4: Shaping Places – including optional sub-topics from which students choose one from two: 4A Regenerating Places or 4B Diverse Places ● Area of study 4, Topic 7: Superpowers ● Area of study 4, Topic 8: Global Development and Connections – including optional sub-topics from which students choose one from two: 8A Health, Human Rights and Intervention or 8B Migration, Identity and Sovereignty **Independent Investigation** ● The fieldwork, which forms the focus and context of the individual investigation, may be either human, physical or integrated physical-human ● The investigation report will evidence independent analysis and evaluation of data, presentation of data findings and extended writing
What activities can I expect to do in this subject as part of the learning and assessment?	Field work is an essential part of the Geography A Level course. For the A Level course, pupils must participate in 4 days of fieldwork in both a human and physical setting. Students will carry out fieldwork within the local area and also take part in a 4 day residential field trip to Devon. Fieldwork is a compulsory element of the Geography course, enabling pupils to complete their geographical investigation.
Will I need any special / different equipment?	Pupils must purchase the core text books for the course for both years 1 & 2. The details of the first core text are provided below. **Edexcel A Level Geography: Book 1** Publisher: **Hodder Education** ISBN-13: **9781471856549**
What careers and university courses does this link to?	Employers and Universities value the broad range of transferable skills that students develop studying Geography. It fits together with most other subjects from both the sciences and the arts. The course is excellent preparation to follow careers in planning, resource management, and environmental consultancy. Many geographers also branch out into other careers such as journalism, law, the Civil Service and financial services.
Is there anything else I need to know	You can subscribe to Geography Review, a magazine specifically written for Geography A Level.
Where would I get any further information from?	Head of Humanities: Mr G Collman gcollman@raynespark.merton.sch.uk Edexcel Geography: http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-a-levels/geography-2016.html

LEVEL 3 CAMBRIDGE TECHNICALS IN HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

Why study this subject?	The Level 3 Cambridge Technicals in Health and Social Care qualifications is designed to provide highly specialist, work-related qualifications in a range of vocational sectors. They give learners the knowledge, understanding and skills that they need to prepare for employment in Health and Social Care and they attract UCAS points that equate to similar-sized general qualifications within education institutions within the UK for progression to Higher Education.	
What topics/units will I cover and learn in this subject?	The qualification allows for greater flexibility with choices through a wide range of units such as learning about an individual's rights and needs, cultural diversity, sexual health and contraception, and coping with changes in life stages. It is an ideal foundation for students entering the workplace, providing them with a theoretical background reinforced with practical skills that transfer into the modern workplace.	
Entry Criteria	GCSE grade 4 or equivalent in Maths and English and level 2 pass Health and Social Care if taken.	
Which exam board and specification is it?	**Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate in Health and Social Care** Equivalent to one A' level in terms of size (Single) **Cambridge Technical Diploma in Health and Social Care** Equivalent to two A' levels in terms of size (double)	
How will I be assessed?	**Internally**	**Externally**
	Combination of internally assessed units over Year 12 and 13. Single: 3 internally assessed units Double: In addition to the single award units plus 3 more.	Combination of externally assessed units across Year 12 and 13. Single: 3 externally examined units. Double: In addition to the single award examinations plus 2 more.
When will I be assessed?	Units which are internally assessed will be throughout the school year and deadlines will be given by the class teacher. Units which are externally assessed through examinations will take place in January and June of each year.	
What activities can I expect to do in this subject as part of the learning and assessment?	Research and gathering information for portfolio Surveys Role plays Work experience	
Will I need any special / different equipment?	No.	
What careers and university courses does this link to?	On successful completion of a Level 3 Cambridge Technicals in Health and Social Care qualification, a learner can progress to or within employment and/or continue their study in the same or related vocational area.	
Is there anything else I need to know?	No.	
Where would I get any further information from?	http://www.ocr.org.uk/ Contact: Ms Audley: saudley@raynespark.merton.sch.uk	

A LEVEL HISTORY

Why study this subject?	The aims of this specification are to: • Develop a coherent knowledge of the past – both within and across the topics chosen; • Develop and apply understanding of historical concepts – including explanation, evidence, interpretations and significance; • Develop the techniques of critical thinking in a historical context – and the skills necessary to analyse and solve historical problems; • Develop critical awareness of a range of historical dimensions • Develop the ability to communicate historical arguments and conclusions clearly and succinctly with reference to appropriate historical terminology	
What topics/units will I cover and learn in this subject?	• Paper 1, Option 1H: Britain transformed, 1918–97 • Paper 2, Option 2H.2: The USA, 1955–92: conformity and challenge. • Paper 3 option 35.2: The British Experience of Warfare 1790-1918	
Entry Criteria	• 5 GCSEs at 5 and above (including 6 and above in English and History)	
Which exam board and specification is it?	Edexcel Level 3 Advanced GCE in History (9HI0)	
How will I be assessed?	**Internally**	**Externally**
	A2 20% Coursework	A2 80% Exam
When will I be assessed?	At the end of the 2 year course.	
What activities can I expect to do in this subject as part of the learning and assessment?	Extensive wider reading and source analysis. The use of the internet to source a variety of specialist materials. The creation of a research diary to inform a personal study. The study of film and audio materials to gather comprehensive sources to reinforce the study of 20th century topics.	
Will I need any special / different equipment?	No.	
What careers and university courses does this link to?	All arts and social science degrees including history, law, English sociology, economics, politics etc., would be open to you. In terms of careers there are obvious routes into law, journalism and the wider media, education and local or national government and any part of the civil service.	
Is there anything else I need to know?	Course books can be purchased from the school, with a refund given at the end of the course if the book is still deemed to be in good condition.	
Where would I get any further information from?	Head of Humanities: Mr G Collman gcollman@raynespark.merton.sch.uk Edexcel http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-a-levels/history-2015.html	

OCR CAMBRIDGE TECHNICALS LEVEL 3 - INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Why study this subject?	This pathway focuses on the development of a range of applications across platforms and sectors. We've made sure your students will gain the right combination of knowledge, understanding and skills required for the 21st century, enabling them to demonstrate the skills of writing specifications, and the design, build, testing and implementation of applications. In addition to the mandatory units, your students must also achieve the mandatory pathway unit Application Design.
What topics/units will I cover and learn in this subject?	**Unit 1 - Fundamentals of IT (External Exam)** A sound understanding of IT technologies and practices is essential for IT professionals. Information learnt in this unit will create a solid foundation in the fundamentals of hardware, networks, software, the ethical use of computers and how businesses use IT. **Unit 2 – Global Information (External Exam)** The purpose of this unit is to demonstrate the uses of information in the public domain, globally, in the cloud and across the Internet, by individuals and organisations. You will discover that good management of both data and information is essential and that it can give any organisation a competitive edge. **Unit 6 – Application Design (Coursework)** The purpose of this unit is to prepare you to undertake skills & technical knowledge that about designing an application, they will also learn key transferable skills about liaising with clients, questioning people effectively to gain the information they need to develop successful designs, and presenting their ideas to an audience and getting feedback from them. **Unit 15 – Game design and Prototyping (Coursework)** This unit will help you develop skills in designing and developing a prototype for a simple game. It will enable you to consider the logic of the programming structures required, as well as the interface design. You will then build a prototype to demonstrate an element of your game. **Unit 21 – Web Design and Prototyping (Coursework)** In this unit you will research, design and produce an interactive responsive website that is specific to a client's needs, culminating in presenting the concept of the website using the prototype to the client. You will learn about the security risks within website design, and how to minimise these threats.
Entry Criteria	5 GCSE grades 9-4 with at least the equivalent of 4 grade in Math or ICT/Computer Science at KS4.
Which exam board and specification is it?	OCR
How will I be assessed?	**Externally -** This is assessed by 2 exams in year one and coursework in year 13
When will I be assessed?	Throughout the course
What activities can I expect to do in this subject as part of the learning and assessment?	You will look at programming in a variety of languages including Visual Basic, Python and JavaScript. We will look at building software and how to ensure a smooth an elegant structure to software code. We will examine the construction and theory behind the hardware we use every day.
Will I need any special / different equipment?	You will not need any specialist equipment, but the lessons will draw on your knowledge and experience of using a wide range of technologies outlined above.
What careers and university courses does this link to?	Cambridge Technicals are an entry route to university study in the UK or for progression on to a professional career so that you have both theoretical knowledge of the subject area and practical skills.
Is there anything else I need to know?	In all units the following areas are vital: general communication skills, interpersonal skills, written communication skills, a sense of audience.
Where would I get any further information from?	You can contact Ms Y Blankson, Head of Computer Science if you would like further information: yblankson@raynespark.merton.sch.uk

A LEVEL MATHEMATICS

Why study this subject?	Mathematics A level students and graduates are in high demand by employers. Maths is the essential transferable component across all science, engineering, technology and maths subjects. Currently 59% of employers state they are having difficulty recruiting people with Mathematics skills.
What topics/units will I cover and learn in this subject?	Pure Mathematics 1 – Quadratic functions, Coordinate geometry, Sequences & series, Trigonometry, Exponentials & logarithms, Differentiation, Integration, Vectors Pure Mathematics 2 – Quadratic functions, Coordinate geometry, Sequences & series, Trigonometry, Exponentials & logarithms, Differentiation, Integration, Numerical Methods Mechanics 1 – Kinematics, Forces and Newton's Laws, Moments Statistics 1 – Sampling, Data presentation and interpretation, Probability, Statistical Distributions, Statistical hypothesis testing
Entry Criteria	Grade 6 or above at GCSE level. All Grade 6 or equivalent students will be expected to attend an additional weekly booster programme.
Which exam board and specification is it?	Edexcel (9MA0)
How will I be assessed?	**Externally**
	$33\frac{1}{3}$% – Pure Mathematics 1 $33\frac{1}{3}$% – Pure Mathematics 2 $33\frac{1}{3}$% – Statistics and Mechanics
When will I be assessed?	All three papers will be taken in the Summer of the final year of the course. Each paper will be two hours long.
What activities can I expect to do in this subject as part of the learning and assessment?	Group work, problem solving, tarsia jigsaws, peer assessment, self-assessment, independent study
Will I need any special / different equipment?	Scientific calculator Casio fx-991EX Classwiz
What careers and university courses does this link to?	An A Level in mathematics is very valuable as a supporting subject to many courses at A Level and a much sought-after qualification for entry to a wide variety of courses in higher education at degree level, especially in the sciences, geography, psychology, sociology and medical courses. Those who continue to study Maths after GCSE go on to work in some of the best paid careers in the world, including medicine, research and development, engineering, statistics, operational research, computing, accountancy, actuarial work, business management, insurance, financial services and teaching.
Is there anything else I need to know?	Students will be expected to complete a Bridging Course over the summer before they start the course. The Bridging Course assignment covers the essential GCSE topics that are required for the study of A Level Maths.
Where would I get any further information from?	Contact teacher: Ms Sterlini tsterlini@raynespark.merton.sch.uk www.mathscareers.org.uk

A LEVEL FURTHER MATHEMATICS

Why study this subject?	Further Mathematics is one of the most highly respected subjects offered at A- level. It is recognised by the top Universities for its challenging content and is therefore an excellent qualification to obtain. It is particularly popular with students going on to study a course which demands a high level of mathematics, such as Computing, Technology, Engineering and the Sciences as well as Mathematics.
What topics/units will I cover and learn in this subject?	Further Pure Mathematics 1 includes Proof, Complex numbers, Matrices, Further algebra and functions, Further calculus, Further Vectors Further Pure Mathematics 2 module includes Complex numbers, Further algebra and functions, Further calculus, Polar coordinates, Hyperbolic functions, Differential equations Plus two applied units.
Entry Criteria	Grades 7-8 or equivalent at GCSE level and you must be studying A Level Mathematics.
Which exam board and specification is it?	Edexcel (9FM0)
How will I be assessed?	**Externally**
	25% - Further Pure Mathematics 1 25% - Further Pure Mathematics 2 25% - Further Mathematics Option 1 25% - Further Mathematics Option 2
When will I be assessed?	All four papers will be taken in the Summer of the final year of the course Each paper will be 1.5 hours long
What activities can I expect to do in this subject as part of the learning and assessment?	Group work, problem solving, tarsia jigsaws, peer assessment, self-assessment, independent study
Will I need any special / different equipment?	Scientific calculator Casio fx-991EX Classwiz
What careers and university courses does this link to?	Mathematics is the bedrock of nearly all science and economic based disciplines, from Physics and Geography to Banking and Engineering. Further Maths will also introduce you to new topics, such as matrices and complex numbers, which are vital for maths-rich degrees in areas such as sciences, engineering, statistics and computing, as well as mathematics itself.
Is there anything else I need to know?	Students will be expected to complete a Bridging Course over the summer before they start the course. The Bridging Course covers the essential GCSE topics that are required for the study of Further Maths, along with additional problem solving activities.
Where would I get any further information from?	Contact teacher: Ms Sterlini tsterlini@raynespark.merton.sch.uk www.mathscareers.org.uk

A LEVEL MEDIA STUDIES

Why study this subject?	The media permeates all aspects of modern life and Media Studies offers the opportunity to study the media in depth and how it influences not only its audience but also society, politics and the world of finance.	
What topics/units will I cover and learn in this subject?	Component 1: Media Products and Industries Students study two sections in this unit Section A: Analysing Media Language and Representation Section B: Understanding Media Industries and Audiences Component 2: Media forms and products in depth Section A: Television in the Global Age Section B: Magazines; Mainstream and Alternative Section C: Media in the Online Age Component 3: Non Exam Assessment This is a coursework unit with set briefs where you will have to plan, produce and evaluate a particular media text	
Entry Criteria	Entry Criteria: 5 Level 5+ including Maths and English with a least a Grade 5 in Media or a related subject.	
Which exam board and specification is it?	Exam Board: Eduqas Specification: 603/1149/6 http://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/media-studies/as-a-level/	
How will I be assessed?	**Internally**	**Externally**
	30%	60%
When will I be assessed?	Assessment takes place weekly in the form of essays or practical assessment. Coursework is completed by the end of the first year and the exam takes place in June of the second year.	
What activities can I expect to do in this subject as part of the learning and assessment?	Written essays, production of moving image media, class discussion, analysis of print media, creation of case studies by studying ICT based media.	
Will I need any special / different equipment?	N/A.	
What careers and university courses does this link to?	Progression Pathways: Media Studies, Media related fields including Journalism and other Humanities. Employment in the Media industry.	
Is there anything else I need to know?	An interest in all forms of the media is a prerequisite, from its production, ideological implications and effect on the audience and society in general. The more you engage with the media the more enjoyable the course will be.	
Where would I get any further information from?	Contact teacher: Mr Fuller, Head of Media, pfuller@raynespark.merton.sch.uk	

A LEVEL PHOTOGRAPHY

Why study this subject?	During the Photography course students will have exciting opportunities to develop understanding of photography skills. The photography course not only develops students understanding of Photography as an art form, the course also gives students the skills to research and develop their thoughts independently. This course is ideal for students who have imagination, flair, are hardworking, independent and enjoy experimenting with a range of materials and expressing their ideas in a visual format.	
What topics/units will I cover and learn in this subject?	All projects are thematic which allows students to be independent and explore their ideas creatively. Through the projects students will develop their understanding and skills in how to: • Record ideas through photography • Explore, develop and experiment with a range of media. • Research and investigate artists, designers, photographers and other cultures. • Develop and refine ideas using relevant media and processes • Produce a final piece based on sketchbook work.	
Entry Criteria	5 Grade 9 - 5 Grades at GCSE including at least a 6 in Art / Photography	
Which exam board and specification is it?	AQA 7206	
How will I be assessed?	**Internally**	**Externally**
	60% Coursework Portfolio AS: Coursework portfolio based on work set in lessons. A2: Coursework portfolio based on a personal investigation supported by written element of 1000-3000 words	40% Externally Set Assignment For the externally set assignment students will be given a choice of externally set themes to base preparatory studies on. During the AS students will take part in a practical 10 hour controlled assessment activity and a 15 hour end of project practical examination in A2
When will I be assessed?	Students will be assessed at the end of the course (May) based on their coursework portfolio and externally set assignment. Work is marked and moderated internally by teaching staff and a sample is also moderated externally.	
What activities can I expect to do in this subject as part of the learning and assessment?	The work produced in lessons and for homework will make up the coursework portfolio which is assessed. In AS students will take part in a series of practical workshops to build skills and will have also have the opportunity to develop ideas. During the A2 course students will choose their own theme to produce a body of work, they will also be expected to write a critical essay that relates to their practical work. The externally set assignment for AS and A2 is based on a choice of questions set by the exam board, students will produce a sketchbook of preparatory studies to support final outcomes.	
Will I need any special / different equipment?	It is useful for students to have a good quality camera at home. Cameras can be borrowed from the department however there are a limited number.	
What careers and university courses does this link to?	The course gives students entry into Foundation Diploma in Art and Design and art based degree courses. The course will also teach students how to think creatively, develop independence a long side developing critical analysis and research skills	
Is there anything else I need to know?	The A Level course is a coursework based subject therefore that there is an understanding that all work produced (including homework) will form part of the assessed coursework.	
Where would I get any further information from?	www.aqa.org.uk Head of Art and Design Ms C Curtis ccurtis@raynespark.merton.sch.uk	

A LEVEL PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Why study this subject?	This specification builds on the student's experience from Key Stage 4 and GCSE to enhance their knowledge and increase their understanding of the factors that affect performance and participation in Physical Education. The specification is assessed in a linear format meaning students will complete their exams and practical assessment at the end of the two-year course. Students can complete the AS qualification after one year but this will not contribute to the final result and should be considered as a separate qualification.
What topics/units will I cover and learn in this subject?	Factors affecting participation in physical activity and sport • Applied anatomy and physiology • Skill acquisition • Sport and society Factors affecting optimal performance in physical activity and sport • Exercise physiology and biomechanics • Sport psychology • Sport and society and technology in sport Practical Performance
Entry Criteria	Students must achieve at least a grade 5 in both Sciences at GCSE in addition to a 6 grade at GCSE PE in order to be able to cope with the course content. They also must also be playing regularly at a good standard of at least one competitive sport. Students must check that this sport is listed as an approved A Level activity and can therefore be brought forward for assessment. Approved sports can be found at www.gov.uk/government/publications/gce-as-and-a-level-physical-education
Which exam board and specification is it?	OCR
How will I be assessed?	Students complete three assessed papers: • Physiological factors affecting performance – 30% of total A Level • Psychological factors affecting performance – 20% of total A Level • Socio-cultural issues in physical activity and sport – 20% of total A Level • Performance in physical education (Non-exam assessment) – 30% of total A Level
When will I be assessed?	June
What careers and university courses does this link to?	The qualification looks to equip students with skills and knowledge required for higher education, particularly Sports Science/Sports Studies type courses or, work within the Health and Fitness industry.
What activities can I expect to do in this subject as part of the learning and assessment?	• Independent study • Group work • Participating in sports
Will I need any special / different equipment?	P.E kit
Is there anything else I need to know?	No
Where would I get any further information from?	Contact Teacher: Mr Wilson-Boyle: cwilsonboyle@raynespark.merton.sch.uk

A LEVEL PHYSICS

Why study this subject?	Physics is a challenging and interesting subject which will help you to understand the world and universe around you! Modern society heavily depends on the contributions made by Physicists. Advances such as x-ray machines and ultrasound scanners in hospitals, even radiotherapy to treat patients would have been impossible were it not for the work of physicists. Where would we be without our mobile phone, I-pod, TV or favourite games console? The mechanics of how things move accelerate and fall is applied to so many everyday situations that we take for granted. The course enables students to develop skills in experimental techniques including prototyping, design, visualising and abstract thinking, observation, handling and evaluating skills, logical thinking and written and oral expression. Some students go on to study physics at university. This may lead to a career in research and development, either in a university or in industry. High temperature semiconductors, a better understanding of sub atomic particles and more efficient ways of storing energy for cars are just three areas of research being pursued at the moment. Perhaps the majority of those who study A-Level Physics do so in order to apply their physics knowledge in another subject area at university. Examples of this are the many branches of engineering, electronics and meteorology. For these careers, A-Level Physics is essential. Another group of students choose Physics because they feel that it will be useful even if not essential for their career. Those intending to follow a career in medicine or biochemistry fall into this category. The remainder are going to follow a career in a completely unrelated area such as law or accountancy. This group of students may have chosen Physics simply because they enjoy it or because they know that it is highly regarded by universities as a test of problem-solving ability and logical thought. We hope that for whatever reason students choose to study physics at RPHS, they find it exciting and stimulating.
What topics/units will I cover and learn in this subject?	**Year 1 Units - AS** 1 Measurements and their errors 2 Particles and radiation 3 Waves 4 Mechanics and materials 5 Electricity **Year 2 Units – Year 2 Units – A level** 6 Further mechanics and thermal physics 7 Fields and their consequences 8 Nuclear physics 9 Optional topic - Astrophysics **Year 2 Units – A level** 6 Further mechanics and thermal physics 7 Fields and their consequences 8 Nuclear physics 9 Optional topic - Astrophysics
Entry Criteria	Acceptance onto the course requires a minimum of **two Grade 6's at GCSE Science at higher tier** and a recommendation from their science teacher. Students need a secure understanding of Physics and Mathematics to succeed at AS therefore it is crucial that they have sat the higher papers. It is also crucial that students can demonstrate an awareness of ethical issues and how Physics relates to current social developments. Finally, a good grasp of mathematical concepts is required and so need a **Grade 6 in English and Maths GCSE**. **Students will have to choose AS Maths in addition to this course.**
Which exam board and specification is it?	AQA Physics
How will I be assessed?	**Internally** On-going teacher assessment for each topic, through assessment for learning tasks, summary questions, extended writing tasks and exam questions. **Externally** Through external exams at the end of year 1 and 2. Year 2 exams: Paper 1: Topics 1-5, 2 hours, 34% of exam. Paper 2: Topics 6-8, 2 hours, 34% of exam. Paper 3: Topic 9 + data analysis, 2 hours, 32% of exam.
When will I be assessed?	Linear examinations in June for both AS and A2 Controlled assessments throughout the year for both AS and A2
What careers and university courses does this link to?	Accountant, Aeronautical Engineer, Agricultural Engineer, Architect, Astronomy, Automobile Engineer, Banking, Chemist, Climatologist, Cosmologist, Design Engineer, Economics, Electrical Engineer, Ergonomics, Food Scientist, Geophysicist, Geotechnical Engineer, Mechanical Engineer, Medical Engineer, Medical Physicist, Meteorologist, Mining Engineer, Nanotechnology, Naval Architect, Nuclear Physicist, Oceanographer, Optical Physicist, Optometry, Patent Law, Physicist, Radiographer, Science Journalist, Sound Engineer, Teaching. Activities will include practical investigations, independent research, group and individual work, presentations, ICT work, past examination questions, essays and written examinations.
What activities can I expect to do in this subject as part of the learning and assessment?	Activities will include practical investigations, independent research, group and individual work, presentations, ICT work, past examination questions, essays and written examinations.
Will I need any special / different equipment?	A scientific calculator is a necessity and should be brought to every lesson, a physic textbook and a revision guide.
Is there anything else I need to know?	Students often ask whether they should also study A Level mathematics. It is definitely helpful because there is a lot of overlap between the two subjects. For this reason students who take AS-Level Physics must also take AS Mathematics. Most lessons in AS Physics involve maths, particularly algebra.
Where would I get any further information from?	http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/as-and-a-level/chemistry-7404-7405 You can contact Ms Burkin who is the Head of Science if you would like further information: kburkin@raynespark.merton.sch.uk

A LEVEL PSYCHOLOGY

Why study this subject?	Psychology is the study of the mind. At Raynes Park High School, students study the many concepts contained within this definition, including the social, cognitive and abnormal perspectives in psychology. We aim to enable students to develop an understanding and empathy with the workings of the mind, both in an anatomical and cognitive sense. The course enables students to develop skills in analytical techniques including design, observation, handling and evaluating skills, logical thinking and written and oral expression. Practical elements are incorporated into the course at all available opportunities. At AS students will study different approaches in psychology, including cognitive and behavioural psychologies, attachment and stress. At A2 students also study disorders such as schizophrenia, biological rhythms and relationships. Psychology pushes us towards greater self-understanding by making us more aware of our actions and personalities.	
What topics/units will I cover and learn in this subject?	<u>AS Level</u> 1 Social influence 2 Memory 3 Attachment 4 Approaches in Psychology 5 Psychopathology 6 Research methods <u>A level</u> 1 Social influence 2 Memory 3 Attachment 4 Psychopathology 5 Approaches in Psychology 6 Biopsychology 7 Research methods 8 Issues and debates in psychology	
Entry Criteria	Acceptance onto the course requires a minimum of **two Grade 6s in Combined Science or Separate Science GCSE**. Students need a secure understanding of Science to succeed in this course. It is also crucial that students can demonstrate an awareness of ethical issues and how biology relates to current social developments. A good grasp of mathematical concepts is required and so need **a Grade 6 in Maths GCSE**. Finally, students will have to write essays to demonstrate knowledge and understanding on this course and so will need to have a minimum of **grade 6 in English GCSE**.	
Which exam board and specification is it?	AQA Psychology Syllabus A	
How will I be assessed?	**Internally**	**Externally**
	On-going teacher assessment for each topic, through assessment for learning tasks	Unit 1,and 2 at AS Unit 1, 2,and 3 at A level
When will I be assessed?	External examinations in May/June for both AS and A Level	
What activities can I expect to do in this subject as part of the learning and assessment?	Practical experiments, presentations, ICT work, past examination questions, essays and written examinations.	
Will I need any special / different equipment?	Scientific calculator, Psychology textbook, Revision Guide.	
What careers and university courses does this link to?	Medicine, Psychiatry, Veterinary science, Dentistry, Nursing, Criminology, Social Work, Sport Psychology, Therapist, Teaching, Public Relations, Advertising, Journalism and Lawyer	
Is there anything else I need to know?	This course should be studied in conjunction with another Science A level subject such as Biology or Mathematics if to be pursued at degree level.	
Where would I get any further information from?	You can contact Ms Crowe, Lead Teacher, if you would like further information: <u>gcrowe@raynespark.merton.sch.uk</u>	

BTEC LEVEL 3 NATIONAL SUBSIDIARY DIPLOMA IN APPLIED SCIENCE

Why study this subject?	The BTEC Level 3 Extended certificate in Applied Science provides the underpinning knowledge, understanding and skills required for students wishing to enter a career as a support role within industrial science, medicinal science, sport science, food science and education. The qualification is equivalent to 1 A level but provides access to more specialist units in preparation for the world of work.		
What topics/units will I cover and learn in this subject?	There are three mandatory units and 1 optional unit: These are unit 1: principles and applications of science, unit 2: Practical scientific procedures and techniques, unit 3: science investigation skills plus one optional unit		
Entry Criteria	Academic entry requirements: You should have a minimum of 4 GCSEs at Grade 5 or above (including Science and Maths or English) or a BTEC Level 2 Principles and Applications in Applied Science at Merit or above. Personal qualities: An interest in science and how it is used in the workplace, along with the ability to work well both in a team and as an individual.		
Which exam board and specification is it?	Edexcel	**Qualification type**	BTEC Level 3 Extended certificate in Applied Science
How will I be assessed?	**Internally**	**Externally**	
	Assignments	Examination and practical task	
When will I be assessed?	Throughout the year and during the summer term.		
What activities can I expect to do in this subject as part of the learning and assessment?	This is a practical, work-related course. You learn by completing projects and assignments that are based on realistic workplace situations, activities and demands and you will develop the skills you need to start a career in Science.		
Will I need any special / different equipment?	No.		
What careers and university courses does this link to?	At the end of the course if you pass the assignments and the examination then you will gain a nationally recognised qualification in Applied Science. The qualification can be converted into UCAS points for University entry. (This is broadly equivalent to 1 A level) This course can also lead to employment in: - Education , as a Science technician in a school or university laboratory - A quality control laboratory in the manufacturing industry - A hospital laboratory - A materials testing laboratory in the construction, paper or plastics industry - A medicinal support role within areas such as physiotherapy, midwifery, radiography and nutrition - Sport related roles		
Is there anything else I need to know?	No.		
Where would I get any further information from?	Look at the following: the Edexcel website for more information: http://www.edexcel.com/Subjects/BTEC-Applied-Science/Pages/Default.aspx You can contact Ms Burkin who is the Head of Science if you would like further information: kburkin@raynespark.merton.sch.uk		

A LEVEL SOCIOLOGY

Why study this subject?	The value of Sociology lies in its attempt to understand the social world. The sociological attempt to achieve this understanding involves: 1. Examining the manner in which groups in society work together and the potential for conflict. 2. Observing how different parts of society, such as the education system and the criminal justice system work and how they have changed over the years. 3. Analysing the nature and causes of social problems, such as poverty, educational underachievement and crime. 4. Evaluating the ideas and theories of leading sociologists.	
What topics/units will I cover and learn in this subject?	In year 1 - **Education with Methods in Context** and **Research Methods and Topics in Sociology** (Families and Households). In 2 year - **Education with Theory and Methods**, **Topics in Sociology** (Families and Households and Beliefs in Society) and **Crime and Deviance with Theory had Methods.**	
Entry Criteria	5 GCSEs grades 9-5 (including English and Maths grade 5 or equivalent)	
Which exam board and specification is it?	AQA	
How will I be assessed?	Internally	Externally
	Progress is closely monitored and regular feedback is given throughout the course.	100% written examinations, no coursework.
When will I be assessed?	All units are assessed through written examinations in the summer term : A Level- Three external exam completed at the end of two years of study, each work 33.33% of the overall grade .	
What activities can I expect to do in this subject as part of the learning and assessment?	Students will complete reading, research and note taking both during lessons and at home. They can also be expected to take part in several classroom based activities such as discussions, debates and peer presentations to enhance their learning and understanding of key concepts and theories. Independent research, study and essay writing practice is expected to take place weekly in the student's own time.	
Will I need any special / different equipment?	No but they may be advised on additional revision guides that could be purchased to support with exam preparation.	
What careers and university courses does this link to?	Academic qualifications in Sociology provide students with valuable analytical and evaluative skills. Sociology is recognised for entry to all universities and by employers for a wide variety of jobs and careers: Social Research, Management, Human Resources, the Health Service, Social and Community Work, the Civil Service, the Criminal Justice System, Law and teaching. Sociology combines with a wide range of other academic subjects, particularly those in the humanities area. It is particularly appropriate to those subjects with a similar skills base and related knowledge such as: Law, Government and Politics, English, History, Psychology, Geography etc. Although not directly related to science subjects it can still be an appropriate and useful contrasting subject that would develop communication skills.	
Is there anything else I need to know?	Sociology is an exam based subject therefore, students must practice and complete exam questions and essays on a regular basis during lessons and at home. They must be proactive learners and start the revision process early. It does matter whether or not they have studied Sociology before; it is not taught in every school and we do not assume any previous knowledge.	
Where would I get any further information from?	You can contact Ms Audley, Head of Sociology, for more information at saudley@raynespark.merton.sch.uk (or alternatively visit SF9).	

A LEVEL SPANISH

Why study this subject?	The ability to speak a Modern Foreign Language is a key skill in a world where business and communications are now conducted globally, and in which 75% of people speak no English at all. It is beneficial as a means of advancing career prospects: those who can speak a foreign language earn on average 8% more than their monolingual peers. There are many benefits to being able to speak in a foreign language. It enables people to achieve success in work not just abroad, but also in the UK; communicate effectively when travelling or dealing with people from around the world; appreciate the culture, civilisation and history of other communities. Learning a language helps to develop sought-after skills such as communication, presentation, organisation, problem-solving and independence. A modern language equips students with a strong and flexible mind, a sound knowledge of their own grammar and vocabulary and the ability to transfer such knowledge to new contexts.	
What topics/units will I cover and learn in this subject?	**AS / Year 1** Theme 1 – Social issues and trends: Evolving society in Spain. Impact of tourism The world of work - working life and attitudes to work; gender equality; opportunities for young people. Theme 2 – Political and/or intellectual and/or artistic culture in the Spanish speaking world. Music – changes and trends; impact of music on contemporary culture. Media - print and online media; impact on society and politics; television and telenovelas. Festivals and traditions – festivals, celebrations, customs and traditions. **Year 2** Theme 3 – Social issues and trends: Immigration and the Spanish multicultural society. Theme 4 - Political and/or intellectual and/or artistic culture: The Franco dictatorship and transition to democracy Civil War and the rise of Franco (1936 – 1939) Daily life under Franco. The transition from dictatorship to democracy	
Entry Criteria	Grade 6 or above at GCSE or native speaker of Spanish	
Which exam board and specification is it?	**AS Level Edexcel 8SP0** **A - Level Edexcel 9SP0**	
How will I be assessed?	**Internally**	**Externally**
	Regular class and homework assessments, research and presentations.	Listening reading and translation into English Written response to literary work/film of choice, translation into Spanish and grammar Speaking: Discussion on a theme and discussion on independent research project
When will I be assessed?	Ongoing assessments will take place throughout the course but the exams will be sat in May/June of each year.	
What activities can I expect to do in this subject as part of the learning and assessment?	Regular conversation tasks will take place along with essay writing and explicit grammar activities all in preparation for the final exam. Students will be expected to engage in independent study which may include reading Spanish language newspapers, listening to Spanish language radio and watching Spanish language television and/or films.	
Will I need any special / different equipment?	A dictionary, verb table and grammar guides are highly advisable.	
What careers and university courses does this link to?	At university any course including the study of Spanish or requiring proof of academic ability. Also a beneficial qualification for students wishing to work in business, banking, research and the tourist industry. Language-specific careers can include teaching, interpreting and translating. Other progression Pathways: Spanish Language and Culture Studies, European Studies, Law and other Humanities. Language translation courses, Civil Services. HE studies in Spanish-speaking universities.	
Where would I get any further information from?	http://www.edexcel.com/gce/spanish Contact teacher: Ms Lorimer: clorimer@raynespark.merton.sch.uk	

Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate in Sport and Physical Activity (SINGLE AWARD)

Why study this subject?	Learning: As a work related qualification the course provides the opportunity to develop a broad understanding of sports themes within a real world context.	
What topics/units will I cover and learn in this subject?	Body systems and the effects of physical activity (external exam) Sports organisation and development (external exam) Sports coaching and activity leadership Organisation of sports events Practical skills in sport and physical activities	
Entry Criteria	Entry Criteria: 5 Grade 9 - 4 GCSE with at least the equivalent of 4 grade in Sport or PE at GCSE or relevant experience.	
Which exam board and specification is it?	Exam Board OCR http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/vocational-education-and-skills/cambridge-technicals-sport-and-physical-activity-level-3-certificate-extended-certificate-foundation-diploma-diploma-05826-05829-2016-suite/	
How will I be assessed?	**Internally**	**Externally**
	Continuous coursework throughout the year	2 exams as indicated above
When will I be assessed?	You will be assessed continuously throughout the course. Units of work will be handed in to conform to pre-set deadlines.	
What activities can I expect to do in this subject as part of the learning and assessment?	You will be doing 3 units that are very heavily based on practical sport so pupils will have to be aware that lots of lessons will be in a practical scenario.	
Will I need any special / different equipment?	P.E kit	
Where would I get any further information from?	Contact Teacher: Mr Wilson-Boyle: cwilsonboyle@raynespark.merton.sch.uk	

Cambridge Technical Diploma in Sport and Physical Activity

(DOUBLE AWARD)

Why study this subject?	Learning: As a work related qualification the course provides the opportunity to develop a broad understanding of Sports themes within a real world context.	
What topics/units will I cover and learn in this subject?	Body systems and the effects of physical activity (external exam) Sports organisation and development (external exam) Sports coaching and activity leadership Organisation of sports events Practical skills in sport and physical activities Working safely in sport, exercise, health and leisure (external exam) Physical activity for specific groups Performance analysis in sport and exercise Sport and exercise psychology Health and fitness testing for sport and exercise Improving fitness for sport and physical activity	
Entry Criteria	Entry Criteria: 5 Grade 9 – 4 GCSE with at least the equivalent of 4 Grade in Sport or PE at GCSE or relevant experience.	
Which exam board and specification is it?	Exam Board OCR http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/vocational-education-and-skills/cambridge-technicals-sport-and-physical-activity-level-3-certificate-extended-certificate-foundation-diploma-diploma-05826-05829-2016-suite/	
How will I be assessed?	**Internally**	**Externally**
	Continuous coursework throughout the year	3 exams as indicated above
When will I be assessed?	You will be assessed continuously throughout the course. Units of work will be handed in to conform to pre-set deadlines.	
What activities can I expect to do in this subject as part of the learning and assessment?	You will be doing 3 units that are very heavily based on practical sport so pupils will have to be aware that lots of lessons will be in a practical scenario. Other units are extensions of learning from level 2 and GCSE where pupils can understand the mind and body of the performer.	
Will I need any special / different equipment?	P.E kit	
What careers and university courses does this link to?	Progression Pathways: Sport and PE related fields. Outdoor Education training and some other science fields. Employment in the sports and fitness related fields.	
Is there anything else I need to know?	No.	
Where would I get any further information from?	Contact Teacher: Mr Wilson-Boyle: cwilsonboyle@raynespark.merton.sch.uk	

GCSE RETAKE ENGLISH

Why study this subject?	The skill that employers most value is communication so it is fortunate that GCSE English is compulsory! This GCSE course will prepare students for higher education and the world of work through learning about written communication and spoken communication. English also exercises and develops critical and lateral thinking skills, leading to students becoming good problem solvers.		
What topics will I cover and learn in this subject?	You will learn to command language in an accurate and sophisticated fashion in both a written and spoken context. You will also learn to interpret and understand texts from poetry to films. You will study one novel, a play, a collection of poetry from pre -1914 and you will also complete a creative writing unit. You will complete controlled assessments which test your understanding of the above topics. You will also give speeches to your class and teacher and be assessed on your ability to communicate in a group situation. There are also reading and writing exams at the end of the course in year eleven.		
Which exam board and specification is it?	IGCSE (November) AQA post November	**Qualification type**	GCSE Language
How will I be assessed?	**Internally**	**Externally**	
	IGCSE Controlled Assessment 40% IGCSE Speaking and Listening 20%	IGCSE Examination 40%	
When will I be assessed?	Assessment in English is continuous. We are constantly monitoring your ability to understand and interpret information and your ability to write properly. You will complete a controlled assessment at least once every half term.		
What activities can I expect to do in this subject as part of the learning and assessment?	▪ Reading comprehension ▪ Analytical and critical thinking ▪ Group communication tasks ▪ Drama and role play ▪ Writing for different audiences and purposes ▪ Grammar drills and tests ▪ Reading ▪ Linguistic analysis ▪ Essay writing		
Will I need any special / different equipment?	You may choose to buy your own copies of the texts you are studying in year ten and eleven. You may also wish to buy the endorsed exam board revision guides.		
The future: What A levels, careers and university courses does this link to?	A grade C or above in GCSE English will open many doors of opportunity for you and it is in fact often the bench mark against which students are measured when colleges and universities are selecting students.		
Is there anything else I need to know?	You will be expected to do a lot of hand writing. All exams and controlled assessments are completed by hand (except in extenuating circumstances).		
Where would I get any further information from?	Contact Teacher: Ms Scott, Head of English, escott@raynespark.merton.sch.uk		

GCSE RETAKE MATHEMATICS

Why study this subject?	Mathematics provides a powerful universal language and an intellectual toolkit for abstraction, generalisation and synthesis. It is of central importance to a modern society as Mathematics underpins the knowledge of the economy and is the language of science to enable us to develop new technologies. Mathematical skills are highly valued and sought after by a variety of employers. Mathematics disciplines the mind, develops logical and critical reasoning and develops problem-solving skills to a high degree. Employment surveys show that graduates in mathematical subjects are in increasing demand in the UK economy.		
What topics will I cover and learn in this subject?	There are 5 main strands to the mathematical content of GCSE Mathematics: Number, Algebra, Ratio/Proportion & rates of Change, Geometry & Measures, Statistics & Probability. Functional elements have been embedded in the course so that students are able to use mathematics in real-life contexts. In their 'Using and Applying' of Mathematics students will develop their thinking skills so they will learn how to form convincing arguments, to justify findings and general statements and to work logically towards results and solutions.		
Which exam board and specification is it?	Edexcel (1MA1)	**Qualification type**	GCSE
How will I be assessed?	**Internally**	**Externally**	
	Regular testing, feedback and target setting to award current working grades and assess progress	100% examination at the end of the 2-year course	
When will I be assessed?	Students will be examined in June with three written papers – One non calculator & two with calculator.		
What activities can I expect to do in this subject as part of the learning and assessment?	Students are encouraged to work collaboratively on tasks that require them to express their thoughts and verbalise their ideas. This discursive way of working allows pupils to express a deeper and richer level of understanding of underlying mathematical concepts. They will work on sequences of tasks with increasing level of difficulty to make progress in a variety of real and abstract contexts and to work on cross-curricular problems arising in other subjects. Mathematics is not a group of isolated topics but an interconnected web of ideas. Students will be shown how to make these connections by linking to previous work and building on prior knowledge.		
Will I need any special / different equipment?	A scientific calculator is a necessity and must be brought to every lesson so that students know how to use their own calculator under exam conditions. Other standard geometry equipment such as compasses, protractors, rulers are also required.		
The future: What A levels, careers and university courses does this link to?	A grade A or B at GCSE Mathematics leads on to A level Maths at RPHS as well as other courses such as Economics and the Sciences. Possible future careers include Accountancy, Finance, Engineering, Architecture, and Medicine.		
Is there anything else I need to know?	Useful websites are hegartymaths.com – students create their own login and password details. Students are strongly advised to use Mathswatch for independent study/ revision.		
Where would I get any further information from?	You can contact Mr Tombs, Head of Mathematics, if you would like further information on jtombs@raynespark.merton.sch.uk		

Raynes Park High School

Sixth Form

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