

Humanities subjects give students the opportunity to learn more about the world in which we live.

As a humanities student you will explore the ways in which people interact with each other and the many varied reasons behind events, beliefs, opinions and actions. You will learn to apply the moral, ethical, cultural and ideological approaches that bring together this fascinating group of subjects. You will need to keep up to date with current affairs and should have a keen interest in how the decisions made in the current moment draw on past events and help to shape the future.

Humanities subjects are highly regarded by universities as they give students the opportunity to develop skills in critical reading, analysis, evaluation and communication. These are skills that are much sought after in the workplace – particularly in areas such as the media, journalism, law, research, social work and education.

### Skills and Qualities

- Problem solving
- Curiosity
- Communication
- Leadership
- Precision
- Compassion
- Calm under pressure

### Career Paths

- Emergency services
- Teacher
- Social worker
- Council departments
- Psychologist
- Probation worker

### Labour Market Info

The public sector makes up for almost 20% of the UK workforce.



# HUMANITIES

# GEOGRAPHY

## A LEVEL - 2 YEARS

Entry Requirements: 5 GCSEs at grade 4-9 including English and Maths

### How will I be assessed?

Examinations and fieldwork investigation.

### What can I do next?

Geography is an extremely versatile subject and is a valuable foundation for Science, Humanities and Arts subjects at Higher Education. Geography students are highly sought after both by universities and employers due to the unique range of skills they develop and their in depth understanding of the world. There are a wide range of university courses which value Geography as an A Level and the subject is particularly useful for students interested in further study, or work, in the areas of journalism, travel and tourism, civil engineering, surveying, environmental science, environmental law, economics, architecture, local and central government, the police, global development, scientific research and meteorology.

### What will I study?

You will learn about how we shape the world we live in, and how we can manage the big issues facing humanity, such as population growth, climate change and increasing demand for limited resources such as water. You will learn about the geography of the local area, in the UK and around the world. You will explore new human environments such as world mega-cities, alongside dynamic physical environments such as those created by earthquakes and volcanoes. Fieldwork is an important part of the course, and you will have the opportunity to carry out your own study allowing you to develop a wide range of skills which are valued by employers and universities.

*"Geography empowers you with skills and knowledge which you are able to use in any field and conversation. Being able to understand the human and physical processes creates a clearer image about the planet you reside on."*  
Tesneem - Fir Vale School





# HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCE



## ASCENTIS LEVEL 2 CERTIFICATE – 1 YEAR

Part of our Level 2 Foundation Programme.  
Entry Requirements: Students are required to have already achieved a combination of at least 3 3s and 4s at level 2 (GCSE or equivalent), including at least a 4 in English.

Two pathways are available, each taking a focus on different subjects within the fields of Humanities and Social Science –

- Humanities Pathway – History, Geography, Religious Studies
- Social Science Pathway – Sociology, Psychology, Criminology

### How will I be assessed?

A combination of written work and skills based tasks which are assessed by teachers, both in examined and non-examined conditions.

### What can I do next?

The aims of the qualification are to enable learners to progress to Level 3 study, such as A Levels or Applied Generals. You will develop skills and knowledge in the areas of Social Science and Humanities relevant for courses such as Criminology, Psychology, Sociology, Politics, Geography, History and RS, and more transferable study skills for further study into a wider range of our Level 3 courses.



### What will I study?

The Level 2 Certificate balances skills-based units with introductory units based around the Humanities and Social Sciences. Learning will be varied to help you develop a wide-range of academic skills, combining written work, discussion, debate, case studies, role plays and fieldwork.

# GOVERNMENT & POLITICS



*“With the knowledge of how the UK and US political systems work you can start to understand what you hear and read in the news.”*  
Kate - Bradfield School

## A LEVEL - 2 YEARS

Entry Requirements: 5 GCSEs at grade 4-9 including English and Maths

### What will I study?

Why do we have rules in Society? What is the point of the Government system? How does our system work and how does everyone play a part in it? Who holds the power to make things happen and create change? If you are interested in how our society functions then Government and Politics may be right up your street. You will learn about the way decisions made by government influence people’s lives, and the way that people can participate in local, national and global politics.

### How will I be assessed?

Written examination.

### What can I do next?

As well as offering you insights into the ways in which the British and American political systems work, A Level Politics will help you to develop an enquiring and critical mind. The course provides an excellent background for careers in law, journalism, the caring professions, teaching and a range of management and business areas. It teaches you to think analytically and philosophically. As such it is well respected by universities and employers alike.

# HISTORY

## A LEVEL - 2 YEARS

Entry Requirements: 5 GCSEs at grade 4-9 including English and Maths

### What will I study?

You will study the French Revolution, arguably the most significant event in world history, looking in detail at the reasons for it, the main events of it and the events that followed it. You will also study British history between 1851 and 1974 and will learn how the British society we see today was formed including how it was influenced by, and further developed, the principles of the French Revolution.

### How will I be assessed?

Examination and coursework.

### What can I do next?

History is an excellent subject for the study of a wide range of university courses including law, economics, business studies, philosophy, English, archaeology, politics and social sciences. If you choose to specialise in History there are a wide range of courses available leading to employment in all sorts of fields, including law, journalism, business, teaching and the museum and heritage sector.

"I highly recommend for students to pick this course if they have a passion for how the world came about today and have a strong thirst for knowledge."

Amelia - Clifton Community School

# PSYCHOLOGY

## A LEVEL - 2 YEARS

Entry Requirements: 5 GCSEs at grade 4-9 including English, Maths and Science

### What will I study?

Psychology is the scientific study of mind and behaviour, attempting to explain why people behave in the ways they do. You will discover and analyse what psychologists have found out about key issues such as the structure of memory, understanding social influence and the cause of mental illness. You will study major perspectives in the areas of biological and cognitive, behavioural psychology as well as research methods, data handling and statistics. You will also study clinical, health and criminal psychology.

### How will I be assessed?

Examination.

### What can I do next?

Psychology is one of the fastest growing subjects in Higher Education. A Level Psychology is not a requirement for a degree but will give you a useful insight into the subject. Psychology graduates are highly sought after due to their unique mix of skills in literacy, numeracy and science. Psychology is also beneficial for work in marketing, education, nursing, advertising, social work, HR and public services.

"Psychology at Longley Park was so fascinating, from learning things like why we obey others to how our childhood experiences affect our daily lives."

Nusaiba - Other

# PHILOSOPHY, ETHICS & RELIGION

## What will I study?

There are three sections to this course, and across them you will study key thinkers and perspectives from the past 2,500 years.

### 1 – Philosophy

Where does knowledge come from? What are we able to know for certain? Why are we here? Why is there evil in the world? What is the purpose of life? Does Science explain everything, or nothing? Is a belief in life after death rational?

### 2 – Ethics

How do we know what is right and wrong? Is there universal truth that applies to us all? How should we treat the environment and others in it? Can war ever be justified? Should medical issues such as abortion and euthanasia be legal?

## A LEVEL - 2 YEARS

Entry Requirements: 5 GCSEs at grades 4-9 including Maths and English

### 3 – Religion

How does religion help humans with their moral codes of conduct? What can we learn from religious history? How does religion fit into the 21st Century? Are different religions still relevant today? Why are religions similar and different at the same time?

## How will I be assessed?

Examinations.

## What can I do next?

Whether you want to be a doctor, pharmacist, police officer, teacher, social worker, journalist, film maker, lawyer or work in business, you will engage with lots of different types of people, requiring empathy, respect and tolerance. Studying philosophy, ethics and religion is really attractive to employers and universities because you have learned how to think in a different way that helps you better understand people and communities. The course develops analytic, interpretation and argument skills; having a contextual understanding of alternative world perspectives provides a solid grounding when it comes to interpreting wider academic theory and concepts. Universities offering science, medicine, humanities, English, law, media or business will welcome the fact that you have studied what it means to be alive.



*"This course fascinates me, especially when we learn about arguments for correct moral action, why we think the way we do, and arguments for and against God's existence."*  
Iqrah - Firth Park Academy



# SOCIOLOGY

## A LEVEL - 2 YEARS

Entry Requirements: 5 GCSEs at grade 4-9 including English and Maths

### What will I study?

Sociology is the study of the individual and society and will appeal to students who are interested in investigating how our everyday lives are shaped by factors such as class, gender and ethnicity. Sociology will develop your research skills and your ability to weigh up evidence and arguments. You will look at human behaviour by studying social groups and the influences on their actions, ideas and beliefs. You will also look at the different methods used by sociologists to collect information and you will study the various theoretical perspectives that aim to explain why society is organised the way it is.

### How will I be assessed?

Examination.

### What can I do next?

A Level Sociology is a valuable subject for a wide range of careers and higher education courses. You may wish to look specifically at areas which involve an understanding of people and social relationships, such as journalism, health care, social work, education, the public services, marketing and management.

"I really like the discussions we have in class about social matters in society and the fact we can all respectfully add our opinions is another reason why I love the subject."

Tamanna - Parkwood Academy

# CRIMINOLOGY

## WJEC LEVEL 3 DIPLOMA - 2 YEARS

Entry Requirements: 5 GCSEs at grade 4-9 including English and Maths

**EQUIVALENT TO 1 A LEVEL**

### What will I study?

Criminology is the study of crime and criminal behaviour. You will learn about different types of crime and how perceptions of crime may differ. You will also gain an understanding of why people commit crime and how the criminal justice system works. You will study real life situations and cases and apply criminological theories to evaluate the effectiveness of social control and criminal justice policies.

### How will I be assessed?

Examination and controlled assessment.

### What can I do next?

Studying Level 3 Criminology will help you gain access to a wide range of higher education courses, including Criminology, Psychology, Sociology and Law. The qualification also provides students with valuable skills and understanding that can lead to a career in a number of areas, such as journalism, law, social work, education and the public services.

"I like Criminology because it helped me to understand the mindset of criminals, why they commit crimes, and the factors that affect them."

Arshaba - Firth Park Academy