



JOHN F KENNEDY
CATHOLIC SCHOOL
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SUBJECT GUIDE 2024

2024 SUBJECT ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Subject	Prior attainment at GCSE	Grade required
Art & Design - Fine Art	Art	5
Biology	Science Mathematics	6 6
Business	English Language Mathematics	5 5
Business BTEC (Double Award)	English Language or Mathematics	5
Chemistry	Science Mathematics	6 6
Computer Science	Computer Science	5
Design & Technology: D&T	D&T or Engineering	5
Drama & Theatre Studies	Drama English Language	5 5
Economics	English Language Mathematics	5 5
English Literature	English Language English Literature	5 5
French	French	6
Further Mathematics	Mathematics	8
Geography	English Language Mathematics Science	5 4 5
History	History English Language	5 5
Mathematics	Mathematics	7
Music	GCSE Music Grade 6/ ABRSM Grade 5 Theory - Merit Performance Skills Of Grade 5 Practical	6 5
Physical Education	PE Science	5 5
Physics	Science Mathematics Maths A level should also be studied	6 6
Psychology	English Language Mathematics Science or Biology	5 5 5
Religious Studies	Religious Studies English Language	5 5
Sociology	English Language	5
Spanish	Spanish	6
Sport BTEC	English Language or Mathematics	5
Travel and Tourism BTEC	English Language or Mathematics	5



Fine Art

Awarding Body	WJEC EDUQAS	Specification Code	A651QS
Purpose of the course	Studying Fine Art encourages creativity, sustained investigation and analysis, experimentation, and design and making as a means of developing technical and expressive skills. It gives learners the opportunity to follow a programme of study which extends experience and personal response as well as developing imagination and critical and reflective thinking. The ability to innovate, adapt and work independently, which underlies all aspects of the specification, is valued by higher education and employers alike.		
Entry requirements	Grade 6 or above in GCSE Art An interest in art, a keen sense of exploration and most importantly commitment.		
Type of qualification	A level		
Course contents	Fine Art emphasises the aesthetic and intellectual rather than practical, functional and utilitarian considerations. This course covers a broad and developing area of study that includes painting, drawing, sculpture, installation, performance and conceptual art and aspects of printmaking, photography and digital media. It utilises traditional, new and emerging media and processes and involves expressive use of a particularly wide range of materials, techniques and skills.		
Assessment method	A two year linear qualification. It consists of two components: · Component 1: Personal Investigation, 60% of qualification, internally assessed, externally moderated. · Component 2: Externally Set Assignment, 40% of qualification, internally assessed, externally moderated.		
Further studies	Producing artistic compositions requires a great deal of conceptual thinking - never underestimate the value of the intellectual processes involved. An Art A level is the prerequisite for any career in the creative field. This includes graphic and theatre design, product design, advertisement, textile and fashion, illustration and animation, film and television work, architecture, interior design, visual art and photography, educationthe list goes on! Many of our students go on to study these subjects in higher education. For more information on careers in the creative industries go to: http://creativejourneyuk.org/		
More information from	Miss Freed		



Biology

Awarding Body	Edexcel	Specification Code	9BNO
Purpose of the course	This course enables students to develop: <ul style="list-style-type: none">● essential knowledge and understanding of different areas of the subject and how they relate to each other● and demonstrate a deep appreciation of the skills, knowledge and understanding of scientific methods● competence and confidence in a variety of practical, mathematical and problem solving skills● interest in, and enthusiasm for biology, including developing an interest in further study and careers associated with the subject● understanding of how society makes decisions about scientific issues and how biology contributes to the success of the economy and society.		
Entry requirements	Ideally Grade 6 in Biology/ Science and Mathematics but depends on other relevant results		
Type of qualification	A Level: graded A* to E		
Course contents	Students will study the following eight topics throughout the course: <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Topic 1: Lifestyle, Health and Risk● Topic 2: Genes and Health● Topic 3: Voice of the Genome● Topic 4: Biodiversity and Natural Resources● Topic 5: On the Wild Side● Topic 6: Immunity, Infection and Forensics● Topic 7: Run for your Life● Topic 8: Grey Matter		
Assessment method	Three externally assessed exam papers. Each Assessment is 2 hours consisting of 100 marks. <ul style="list-style-type: none">● The papers may include multiple-choice, short open, open-response, calculations and extended writing questions.● The papers will include questions that target mathematics at Level 2 or above and a minimum of 10% of the marks across the three papers will be awarded for mathematics at Level 2 or above. Students' practical work will be assessed by teachers, using common practical assessment criteria (CPAC) that are consistent across exam boards. There are 18 core practical activities.		
Further studies	Biology A Level supports students with the transition to higher education or into the world of work. It is highly regarded by universities and employers alike.		
More information from	Mrs Davison Miss Ratna		



Business

Awarding Body	AQA	Specification Code	7132
Purpose of the course	<p>The A level lends itself to studying and engaging with the business world. The specification and assessments encourage students to follow business developments and think critically about contemporary business issues. The new specification is designed to take a holistic approach to the subject, and encourage students to demonstrate the interrelated nature of business using business models, theories and techniques to support analysis of contemporary business issues and situations to provide a dynamic specification.</p> <p>The content is designed to engage students through topics and issues that are relevant in today's society – they will study key contemporary developments such as digital technology and business ethics, and globalisation as well as economic policy.</p>		
Entry requirements	English Language and Mathematics at Grade 5		
Type of qualification	Linear A level		
Course contents	<p><u>Year 1</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● the importance of the context of business in relation to decision making● the interrelated nature of business activities and how they affect competitiveness● the competitive environment and the markets in which businesses operate● the influences on functional decisions and plans including ethical and environmental issues● the factors that might determine whether a decision is successful eg the quality of data and the degree of uncertainty● how technology is changing the way decisions are made, how businesses operate and compete● the impact on stakeholders of functional decisions and their response to such decisions● use of non-quantitative and quantitative data in decision making (including the interpretation of index numbers and calculations such as ratios and percentages) <p><u>Year 2</u></p> <p>The study of strategic decision making in functional areas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● the impact of technology on strategic decision making● the influences of Corporate Social Responsibility, ethical, environmental issues on strategic decisions● the difficulties in forecasting future trends● the importance of assessing feasibility and risk when making strategic decisions● the impact on stakeholders of strategic decisions and their response to such decisions <p>Most of the assessment material is based on real business situations. By examining and thinking critically about real business situations as they study the subject, students will gain an insight into different contexts which will help them to understand the key issues in any situation and compare and contrast this with other situations and apply their understanding.</p>		

Assessment method	<p>Assessed through 3 externally-examined papers, 2 hours per paper, 100 marks each, equally weighted</p> <p>-Paper 1 - Three compulsory sections: Section A has 10 multiple choice questions (MCQs) worth 10 marks, Section B -short answer questions worth approximately 20 marks., Section C - two data response stimuli with questions worth approximately 25 marks.</p> <p>-Paper 2 - Three data response compulsory questions worth approximately 33 marks each and made up of three or four part questions</p> <p>-Paper 3 - One compulsory case study followed by approximately six questions</p> <p>Assessment in A-level Business includes questions that allow students to demonstrate their ability to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • draw together their knowledge, skills and understanding from across the full course of study • provide extended responses. <p>For example questions in Section C of Paper 1 are extended response questions which require a student to draw together different areas of the specification.</p> <p>An extended response is evidence generated by a student which is of sufficient length to allow that student to demonstrate the ability to construct and develop a sustained line of reasoning which is coherent, relevant, substantiated and logically structured.</p>
Further studies	<p>A plethora of degree options available including business management, business with a language, international business and management science</p>
More information from	<p>Mrs Varsani</p>



BTEC Business

Awarding Body	PEARSON	Specification Code	720 GLH
Purpose of the course	<p>The qualification is equivalent in size to two A Levels, and it has been designed as a full two-year programme, normally taken alongside a further Level 3 qualification. It will have double the timetabled time in a student's timetable and is worth double the UCAS points as a single BTEC / A Level.</p> <p>The qualification is recognised by higher education institutions as fully meeting admission requirements to many relevant courses in a variety of areas in the business sector, as single or joint programmes at degree, foundation degree or HND level.</p>		
Entry requirements	English Language or Mathematics at grade 5		
Type of qualification	BTEC Level 3 National Diploma		
Course contents	<p>The Diploma is designed to be the substantive part of a 16–19 study programme for learners who want a strong core of sector study. The qualification gives learners the knowledge, understanding and skills that underpin the business sector that will prepare them for further study or training.</p> <p>This includes the opportunity for learners to choose two units from a selection of options to supplement the mandatory units which reflect the key topics in business:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• marketing• business environments• international business• management• finance.		
Assessment method	8 units of which 6 are mandatory and 3 are external. Mandatory content (83%) External assessment (45%)		
Further studies	<p>After this qualification, learners can progress directly to employment, however it is likely that many will do so via higher study.</p> <p>Areas of employment include junior business roles in marketing, administration, finance, events management, HR, marketing and other related areas in the business sector, including higher apprenticeships</p>		
More information from	Mr Palumbo		