



*Post 16 Learning  
at  
The Marlborough Science Academy*



**Learning with Loreto, STAGS, Townsend and  
Samuel Ryder**

**A Guide to Post 16 Education  
Celebrating Learning Opportunities across St Albans  
September 2022**

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The Alban Learning Partners Consortium consists of the following five schools:

Loreto College, Hatfield Road, St Albans, Herts AL1 3RO • Samuel Ryder Academy, Drakes Drive, St Albans, Herts AL1 5AR • St Albans Girls' School, Sandridgebury Lane, St Albans, Herts AL3 6DB  
The Marlborough Science Academy, Watling Street, St Albans, Herts AL1 2QA • Townsend Church of England School, High Oaks, St Albans, Herts AL3 6DR

## WELCOME

A message from the Heads of School

Welcome to our Post 16 prospectus and the Sixth Form. During our time here, especially within Sixth Form and as Heads of School, we have really grown to love the school and are proud of our learning community. Marlborough will give you the opportunity to study a wide variety of subjects, including those at consortium schools, this lets us study a wider range of subjects, but more importantly helps us to build valuable life skills which we can use in the future.

The brand new study centre is well equipped and can help you to get on with your independent studying in your non-contact time, which is also a good opportunity for you to develop your time management skills. Although, Sixth Form is a massive step up from KS4, but you will be really well supported and the staff will ensure that you are well prepared and have the resources you need in order to succeed during your time with us.



Your journey throughout school and wherever else you may choose to study will ultimately be leading you to a university application, apprenticeship or a career. It may seem daunting; however our Sixth Form has been successful with all teaching staff helping us to achieve our goals. As well as valuable teaching and learning, the school has links with many external companies, who help us develop new skills, away from academics. PHSCEE sessions once a week invite Sixth Form students to gain experience within the school as well as the local community. We are encouraged to volunteer as much as we can and log our hours.

The door of the pastoral leaders is always open if more specific guidance is needed. We are confident that all the information you need to make an informed decision will be presented



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to you throughout the year. If you do have further questions, we are happy to speak to you, regarding our experiences and further information can be found on the website.

We wholeheartedly hope that you choose Marlborough it will undoubtedly allow you to succeed and you will be provided with guidance and support wherever you may need it.

We look forward to seeing you next year!

### Word Challenge Trips to Vietnam, Thailand and Laos



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Attendance among Sixth-Form students is high, particularly in Year 12, because you are embedding a culture of good attendance and of high aspiration.

*Ofsted 2018*

The Sixth-Form curriculum has been broadened so that students can, and typically do, choose courses that are a good match for their abilities and interests.

Expectations around attendance are high, and students are required to complete supervised independent study when they are in school and not in taught lessons. As a result, they attend regularly and use their time productively.

*Ofsted 2018*

Sixth-form students speak very positively about the support that they are given, explaining that their work is interesting and challenging. They say that they are keen to reach their target grades and know how to do so. This was evident during inspectors' observations of their learning. Students appreciate the guidance about applying to university, entering the workplace, or securing high-level apprenticeships; they say it is useful and motivates them.

*Ofsted 2018*



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The benefits of studying with us at Post 16 include;

- ✓ New state of the art 6<sup>th</sup> Form block
- ✓ You know your school and we know you
- ✓ The Ofsted rated the sixth form as good
- ✓ A considered curriculum responsive to students' needs
- ✓ A tradition of quality teaching and excellent results
- ✓ The positive and affirming student-teacher relationships
- ✓ The continuity of peer and friendship groups
- ✓ Opportunities to develop leadership skills in a supportive environment
- ✓ A dedicated academic tutoring programme
- ✓ An enrichment programme that will make your personal statement stand out from the crowd
- ✓ Unique opportunities to stage social and charity events and to support our younger students
- ✓ A sophisticated ever improving working environment
- ✓ Support from staff who care and love teaching
- ✓ A structured careers programme and a high level of support for students next steps
- ✓ Opportunities to travel to extend your learning



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✓ GENERAL INFORMATION

### The Alban Learning Partners

Marlborough works within a learning partnership of schools known as the Alban Learning Partners. Other schools working with us are St Albans Girls School, Loreto, Townsend and Samuel Ryder. Through this partnership we are able to offer additional subject choices to our students, students from our partnership schools may also study one of their subjects at Marlborough.

### Curriculum

Each day has five-hour sessions. The weeks' lessons are split into three teaching blocks as shown in the figure below:

|       | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|-------|--------|---------|-----------|----------|--------|
| 1     | A      | B       | C         | E        | D      |
| 2     |        |         |           |          |        |
| Break |        |         |           |          |        |
| 3     | D      | C       | A         | B        | E      |
| 4     |        |         |           |          |        |
| Lunch |        |         |           |          |        |
| 5     | C      | D       | E         | A        | B      |

Most level 3 courses are taught in one teaching block.

Block E is used by each Learning Partner to deliver its own programme of complementary studies courses and enrichment activities (e.g. GCSE re-takes Physical Education, Duke of Edinburgh Award, Young Enterprise, PSCHEE community service projects and the Learning for Life programme). Also offered during this time are additional qualifications including the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ), Arts Award Gold and Level 2 Sports Leadership.

### Entry requirements

Students are invited to apply for courses in the knowledge that particular entry requirements are required for different courses. These are included in the course information sheets.



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For entry into the Sixth Form students are required to have achieved at least five 9 - 4 grades at GCSE including English Language and Mathematics (at least at a grade 5). In addition, courses also require students to have achieved a minimum average point score for their GCSE examinations, or a minimum grade in the subject they wish to study.

Some students who have not achieved the entry requirements may return to the 6<sup>th</sup> form on an individual programme which may include retaking English and Maths GCSE's.

### **Pastoral Care and Feedback**

Students will be cared for by a team of tutors working with a senior member of staff from each Learning Partner school should they be studying outside of Marlborough. Students' progress will be monitored through one to one meetings, books and portfolios with regular feedback provided. Each Learning Partner provides the opportunity for parent consultation in the second half of the autumn term and a written report is provided towards the end of the spring term.

### **Travel**

If a student is studying a course at a Learning Partner, a mini bus is provided to transport them between different schools during the day, although there is an expectation that students will make their own way at the beginning or end of the school day.

### **Sport**

All students are encouraged to participate in some form of physical exercise whilst in the Sixth Form. Wednesday afternoons are used for sporting activities at each school and this facilitates cross consortium fixtures and events.

### **Wider Participation**

Students are also encouraged to participate in some form of community work, either within the school or outside. To support this, the school has introduced the leadership for life programme.



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## Leadership for Life

Bridging the gap between school and further education or work by providing the leadership for life programme runs alongside academic studies. Designed to provide students with opportunities to develop life skills and confidence, students learn through the experiences of leadership roles and volunteering inside and outside of school.



Volunteering opportunities at Marlborough include radio news reporters and radio technicians, Heads of School, prefects, 6th form committee members, mentors, librarians, literacy support in accelerated learning, lunchtime games support, make-up artists for school productions, receptionist and admin support for Parents' Evening, CVS and NCS ambassadors.

There are two organisations that help support the programme

1. Unifrog – Destinations and careers platforms student account.
2. The National Citizenship Service (NCS) provides a programme designed to encourage personal development through a 4-week programme including; Week 1 - Outward bound - Kingswood Activity Centre Week 2 -University experience Week 3 and 4 - Social action project. Participation in the scheme culminates in a graduation ceremony and certificate from the Prime Minister. NCS also support our PSHCEE programme.



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## Social Activities

Each Sixth Form provides its students with a common room and other facilities specifically for Sixth Form students. Each Sixth Form also arranges regular social activities that have included day trips (both educational and recreational), weekend trips and evening functions.

## Destinations

Students who stay with Learning Partners for the duration of their course generally progress to the destination of their choosing. Most level 3 students complete two years in the Sixth Form and apply successfully for Higher Education courses.

Following successful completion of their courses last year;

75% of students started university degree courses

8% of students started apprenticeship schemes

4% of students having a gap year

8% of students started college

5% of students started in the workplace

## A selection of 2021 University Destinations

|                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Aberystwyth University          | Computer Science                              |
| Arts University<br>Bournemouth  | Illustration                                  |
| Aston University,<br>Birmingham | Computer Science with Business (ITMB)         |
| Aston University,<br>Birmingham | Marketing                                     |
| Bath Spa University             | Geography (Professional Placement Year)       |
| Bath Spa University             | Interior Design (Professional Placement Year) |
| Bath Spa University             | Business and Management                       |
| Bath Spa University             | Forensic Psychology                           |
| Bournemouth University          | Physiotherapy                                 |
| Bournemouth University          | Cyber Security Management                     |



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|  |   |
|--|---|
| Bournemouth University                     | Communication & Media   |
| Bournemouth University                     | Sport Management  |
| Bournemouth University                     | Communication & Media   |
| Bournemouth University                     | Psychology  |
| Bristol, University of the West of England | Fine Art (with Foundation Year)   |
| Bristol, University of the West of England | Urban Planning  |
| Canterbury Christ Church University        | Business Management/Politics (with Professional Placement)                |
| Cardiff University                         | Law and Criminology (Integrated)  |
| Goldsmiths, University of London           | Psychology  |
| Goldsmiths, University of London           | Media and Communications with Foundation Year (Integrated Degree)         |
| Lancaster University                       | Computer Science  |
| Liverpool Hope University                  | Business Management and Sport & Physical Education (with Foundation Year) |
| Liverpool John Moores University           | International Relations and Politics                                      |
| Liverpool John Moores University           | Sport and Exercise Science  |
| Manchester Metropolitan University         | Banking and Finance (Foundation Year)                                     |
| Manchester Metropolitan University         | Education Foundation Year   |
| Manchester Metropolitan University         | Psychology (Foundation)   |
| Manchester Metropolitan University         | Politics  |
| Norwich University of the Arts             | Design for Publishing   |
| Nottingham Trent University                | Filmmaking  |



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|                                   |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Nottingham Trent University       | Marketing  |
| Nottingham Trent University       | Journalism                                       |
| Oxford Brookes University         | Nutrition  |
| Oxford Brookes University         | Digital Media Production                         |
| St George's, University of London | Paramedic Science                                |
| Staffordshire University          | Computer Games Design                            |
| Swansea University                | Criminology and Psychology                       |
| UCFB                              | Sports Business & Coaching                       |
| University College Birmingham     | Business Management                              |
| University of Bath                | Integrated Mechanical and Electrical Engineering |
| University of Brighton            | Sport and Exercise Science                       |
| University of Bristol             | Geography  |
| University of East Anglia UEA     | History and Politics                             |
| University of Exeter              | Neuroscience with Professional Placement         |
| University of Hertfordshire       | Law  |
| University of Hertfordshire       | Accounting and Finance                           |
| University of Hertfordshire       | Finance and Economics                            |
| University of Hertfordshire       | Sport and Exercise Science                       |
| University of Hertfordshire       | English Language and Linguistics                 |
| University of Hull                | Law  |
| University of Kent                | History  |
| University of Kent                | Psychology with a Year Abroad                    |
| University of Leicester           | Medical Physiology                               |
| University of Leicester           | Computer Science                                 |
| University of Liverpool           | Psychology                                       |
| University of Manchester          | Geography  |
| University of Nottingham          | Psychology                                       |
| University of Nottingham          | Law  |
| University of Nottingham          | Chemistry with an International Study Year       |
| University of Portsmouth          | Geography  |



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|                                      |                                |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| University of the Arts<br>London     | Graphic and Media Design       |
| University of the Arts<br>London     | Fashion Contour                |
| University of the Arts<br>London     | Fashion Design and Development |
| University of the Arts<br>London     | Fine Art: Photography          |
| University of Warwick                | Neuroscience                   |
| University of West London            | Musical Theatre                |
| University of West London            | Midwifery                      |
| University of Westminster,<br>London | Architecture                   |
| University of Westminster,<br>London | Psychology                     |

### Contact

Enquiries about the Sixth Form can be directed initially to the following contact;  
 Mrs Gill Battams, Sixth Form Pastoral Administrator  
 The Marlborough Science Academy  
 Telephone: 01727 731371 (direct line)  
 Email: [G.battams@marlborough.herts.sch.uk](mailto:G.battams@marlborough.herts.sch.uk)



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### COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

The following pages contain descriptions of the courses we hope to make available for you to study during the next academic year. Currently it should be noted that the provision of courses is provisional and subject to numbers and staffing.



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**Course title:** Art and Design Fine Art  
**Awarding body:** Edexcel

**Specification number:** 9FA0

**Entry requirements:**

Grade 6 recommended at GCSE or equivalent portfolio of work. GCSE points score 32.

**Course content:**

There are 2 components 1) Personal Investigation (60%) which contains practical work and a small guided written study. 2) An externally set assessment (40%). Students have the opportunity to develop their skills in painting, drawing, print making and 3D work. They can explore and investigate their own ideas with step by step guidance from teacher-led tutorials. There are also trip opportunities such as visits to the Tate, The Saatchi and Curwen Print Centre.

**Assessment:**

Students are continually teacher- assessed throughout the course with verbal and written feedback. There is a mock exam in July for Yr 12 and then the externally set exam which occurs in April of year 13 also. This is worth 40% of the grade. There is a long preparatory period to allow students to study towards their final outcome with their teacher's advice. Yr 12 students have a mock exam in June.

**Why study at The Marlborough Science Academy?**

The Art department at Marlborough has a long-standing excellent reputation both within the county and further afield. Our results are outstanding often seeing 100% of students obtaining 9 – 6 at GCSE and 90% A\* \_A at A Level. The students average grade this year was an A grade. We also offer photography here at Marlborough and have four dedicated large art rooms including a dark room. We have an excellent team of teachers with a broad range of specialising including, Painting, 3:D and sculpture, photography and Textiles.

**Expectations of students:**

You will need an A1 portfolio, a sketchpad, colour materials e.g. pastel, pencils and some basic paints. This is mainly for homework. Students are required to work independently at home, research projects with images and photos and contribute creatively to the group. Access to a computer is also required.

**Career paths:**

Studying Art is essential for any form of design or art courses such as painting, Sculpture, Graphics, Product Design, Fashion, Textiles, Architecture, Furniture/Jewellery Design etc. Also Art shares many links with other subjects such as English, Drama, History, Maths etc. The modern world requires many skills in creativity, industries connected with new Media, Advertising, Gaming, Film, Performance and Journalism often employ graduates with an education in the Arts.



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**Course title:** Biology

**Awarding body:** AQA

**Specification number:** 7401/2

**Entry requirements:**

Grades 66 for Double Science or grade 6 for Triple Biology  
GCSE points score 40

**Course content:**

A Level Biology examines a range of areas, from respiration and photosynthesis, to cell structure and function, adaptation of the gaseous exchange systems in mammals, absorption in the gut, immunity and defence and the conduction of action potentials along neurones to name a few. Students will complete a number of mandatory practicals and experience A Level examination training throughout the course. A Level Biology requires focus, dedication, an excellent work ethic and an understanding that it is not the 'easy' Science.

**Why study Biology at The Marlborough Science Academy?**

Biology at Marlborough is staffed by a range of passionate Biologists who are keen to share their love of this wonderful subject with their students. The Science Faculty is well resourced at Marlborough and there is a Head of Biology in post within the department who will personally oversee the delivery of the course. Specialists staffing the department currently include a Biochemist and a Sports Scientist who share the delivery of this varied and exciting course to ensure an excellent and highly specialised learning experience.

**Expectations of students:**

Students wanting to follow this course should enjoy science in general and the life sciences in particular and be interested in developing their skills in designing investigations using examples from other sources than the given text is essential for higher grades.

**Career paths:**

Medical or veterinary science, pharmaceutical or agrochemical industry, biochemical or genetic research, biotechnology, food industry, nursing, teacher or laboratory technician. Studying Biology gives you a well-rounded view of the way science affects society and the individual.



The Alban Learning Partners Consortium consists of the following five schools:



## **BTEC National Extended Certificate in Sport (equivalent 1 A level) TBC**

## **BTEC National diploma in sport (equivalent 2 A levels) TBC**

**Course title:** Pearson BTEC National in Sport TBC  
**Awarding body:** Pearson  
**Entry requirements:** Grade 5 or above recommended at GCSE or equivalent course.

### **Course content:**

The BTEC extended certificate (1 A level) enables students to build upon the foundation of the National Curriculum in PE and the GCSE / BTEC First.

All students complete the following units over two years.

- Unit 1 Anatomy and physiology (Written exam)
  - Unit 2 Fitness training and programming for health, sport and well-being (written exam)
  - Unit 3 Professional development in the sports industry (coursework module)
  - Unit 7 Practical sports performance (coursework module)
- Those choosing to study the diploma (2 A levels) course will additionally complete
- Unit 4 Sports leadership (coursework module)
  - Unit 5 Application of fitness testing (coursework module)
  - Unit 6 Sports psychology (coursework module)
  - Unit 22 Investigating business in sport and the leisure industry (written exam)
  - Unit 23 Skill acquisition in sport (coursework module)

### **Why study at Marlborough?**

We have an outstanding track record of delivering success with this qualification over a number of years. The majority of students who have studied this course have gone on to study sport at university in many different fields of sport across a range of university's including Loughborough, Birmingham, Bath and Nottingham.

### **Expectations of students:**

It is paramount that students meet all coursework deadlines in order to be successful on this course. Organisation, cooperation and collaboration are key skills required to enjoy the course. A genuine interest in all sports is essential.

### **Career paths:**

Sports development or promotion, Sports coaching, Sports psychologist, PE teaching, personal trainer and Physiotherapist amongst the many career pathways provided by this course.



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|                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| <b>Course title:</b>         | <b>Business Studies</b>  |
| <b>Awarding body:</b>        | AQA  |
| <b>Specification number:</b> | 7132   |
| <b>Entry requirements:</b>   | GCSE points score 38<br>GCSE Maths and English – minimum grade 5 |

### Course content:

The following units of study are covered within the courses:

Yr 12

- Managers, leadership and decision making
- Decision making to improve performance – operational, financial and human

Yr 13

- Analysing the strategic position of a business
- Strategic methods

### Assessment:

It is 100% exam at the end of Year 13. It is a 2-year course with regular exam practice throughout the year. Students sit will 2 exams.

Why study at The Marlborough Science Academy?

It is taught and managed by a lead practitioner in Business Studies a county subject specialist. With many contacts of different businesses which are used as guest speakers.

### Expectations of students:

You will be asked to carry out detailed research on relevant topics and you will be required to complete home learning in the form of business reports, essays and presentations. The course is 100% examination and requires skills in analysis.

### Career paths:

Would you like to run your own business or develop skills to work in advertising, marketing, human resources, accountancy or the legal profession? Would you like to move onto a Degree programme in Business and at University?



The Alban Learning Partners Consortium consists of the following five schools:

**Course title:** Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Applied Business

**Awarding body:** AXA

**Specification number:** 1832

**Entry requirements:** GCSE points score 38  
GCSE Maths and English

**Course content:**

The following units of study are covered within the courses:

- Financial planning
- Business dynamics
- Entrepreneurial opportunities
- Management and leading people

**Assessment:**

The course is equivalent to one A Level and gives students a broad introduction to the business and enterprise industry, with an emphasis on core knowledge and fundamental skills that are transferable across other sectors. The content has been developed in consultation with higher education providers to ensure that it supports progression. In addition employers and professional bodies have been involved and consulted, to confirm the content is appropriate and consistent with current practice.

The course comprises of 6 units, of which 4 units are internally assessed controlled assessment projects and 2 units (50% of the total qualification) are externally set examinations – one at the end of Yr 12 and one at the end of Yr 13.

**Why study at The Marlborough Science Academy?**

It is taught and managed by a lead practitioner in Business Studies a county subject specialist. With many contacts of different businesses which are used as guest speakers.

**Expectations of students:**

You will be asked to carry out detailed research on relevant topics and you will be required to complete home learning in the form of business reports, essays and presentations. The controlled assessment units will be well structured and provide students with as much support as needed.



The Alban Learning Partners Consortium consists of the following five schools:

**Career paths:**

Setting up your own business

Accountancy

Marketing

Human resources

Operations managers

Project managers

Event Managers / Co-ordinators

Working abroad

The requirements of the qualification will mean students develop transferable and higher order skills, which are highly regarded by higher education providers and employers. The qualification carries UCAS points and is recognised by higher education providers as contributing to admission requirements for many courses.



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**Course title:** Chemistry A  
**Awarding body:** OCR

**Specification number:** H432

**Entry requirements:**

66 for Double Science or 6 grade for Triple Chemistry. GCSE points score of 42.  
A minimum grade 5 in GCSE maths is also an entry requirement.

**Course content:**

The course is split into 6 teaching modules:  
Development of practical skills in chemistry  
Foundations in chemistry (atomic structure, moles and bonding etc.)  
Periodic table and energy  
Core organic chemistry  
Physical chemistry and transition elements  
Organic chemistry and analysis

**Assessment:**

There are 3 written papers taken at the end of the second year of the course and a practical endorsement which is a non-exam assessment and is reported separately to the exam grade.

**Why study at The Marlborough Science Academy?**

The course is taught by chemistry specialist teachers and supported by a friendly and dynamic science faculty. By studying at Marlborough, you become part of a large, caring community where your wellbeing is as important as your learning. Lessons are taught within dedicated laboratories to facilitate the practical aspects of the course. Content is taught through a range of teaching methods to support and meet all learners' needs. You will have the opportunity to extend your science skill set outside of the classroom within the school.

**Expectations of students:**

Students wanting to follow this course should enjoy science in general and willing to take on the challenge of a serious subject both at a practical and intellectual level.

**Career paths:**

This qualification will be respected by all employers and is directly relevant to many jobs in industry and medicine. Chemistry A level provides useful background knowledge for all science degree but is essential if you wish to study chemistry, medicine, veterinary medicine, chemical engineering, biochemistry and other similar courses. It is also a highly prized skill set if considering economics at university level.



The Alban Learning Partners Consortium consists of the following five schools:

|                              |                               |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>Course title:</b>         | <b>Classical Civilisation</b> |
| <b>Awarding body:</b>        | OCR                           |
| <b>Specification number:</b> | H408                          |
| <b>Entry requirements:</b>   |                               |

5 GCSE grades 9-5 and a GCSE points score of 38 or more.

Students are readily encouraged to pursue studying Classical Civilisation at A Level even if not studied at GCSE. No prior knowledge of the subject is required. Students who are considering subjects such as English, History and Philosophy will benefit from choosing Classics A Level, as these subjects complement each other well.

Students with a keen interest in literature, art and archaeology will also enjoy studying Classics, as the subject actively transgresses these ideas and themes. You don't need to know any languages, as all the texts are in translation and it doesn't matter if you haven't studied the Greeks and Romans before; all you need is an interest in the ancient world and its cultures. Please note, prior knowledge or learning related to the subject is not a requirement, however it is recommended that students should obtain at least a 6 in GCSE English.

#### Course content:

Classical Civilisation focuses on the civilisations of Greece and Rome, and is a wide-ranging subject involving the study of literature, material culture, ancient thought and ideas, and the ancient historical context. From women in the ancient world, to the study of religious beliefs and ancient acts of intolerance, Classical Civilisation involves interesting discussions that are directly relevant to today's world. The A Level course combines the study of the literature, society, art and culture of classical Greece and Rome.

**The world of the hero:** This component will explore both Greek and Roman epic, with the study of Homer's *Odyssey* as well as Virgil's *Aeneid*, arguably the greatest works of ancient literature. The works of Homer are the foundation of the Western literary canon, and the Greeks themselves considered them the cornerstone of Greek culture. In his *Aeneid*, Virgil pays homage to Homer, but also to Rome's first emperor, Augustus. With their unique composition, and exciting tales of gods and heroes, these works of literature form an excellent grounding for exploration of the classical world.

**Culture and the arts (Greek art):** The 6th– 4th centuries BC was a period of great change in the Greek world, and this is reflected in the art which was produced. Students will have the opportunity to explore and engage with a range of the visual arts produced by the Greeks in 6th– 4th centuries BC, including free-standing sculpture, architectural sculpture and vase-painting. Students will be able to appreciate the profound effect Greek art has had on the art of later periods. This component will hone learners' visual and analytical skills, as well as develop their ability to offer critical analysis.



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**Beliefs and ideas (Love and relationships):** Ideas about love and relationships are key aspects of the literature, thoughts, and ethics of any society. This component offers the opportunity for students to recognise and relate to the passions, frustrations and delights of love in the ancient world. The ethical questions raised by these ideas continue to be wrestled over by successive generations and this unit will generate interesting and important discussions about love, desire, sexuality and the institution of marriage. Poets and philosophers studied include Seneca, Plato, Ovid and Sappho – one of the very few female poets of the ancient world.

#### **Assessment:**

Students will sit 3 exams for each component of the A Level.

The world of the hero: The examination is worth **100 marks** and lasts **2 hours and 20 minutes**. This represents **40%** of the total marks for the A Level.

Culture and the arts: The examination is worth **75 marks** and lasts **1 hour and 45 minutes**. This represents **30%** of the total marks for the A Level.

Beliefs and Ideas: The examination is worth **75 marks** and lasts **1 hour and 45 minutes**. This represents **30%** of the total marks for the A Level.

#### **Why study at The Marlborough Science Academy?**

Studying Classics at the Marlborough Science Academy allows students the opportunity to study diverse topics and sources, including both literature and visual/material culture, which will inspire and motivate learners to engage further with the classical world. Miss Garrett is our specialist teacher who studied Classical Studies at degree level. She has extensive experience and she is eager to share her love of the subject. Her specialism is ancient literature, which is studied widely across the topics of the course.

#### **Expectations of students:**

Students are expected to be committed to their studies and to be making progress to meet the demands of the subject. Students will be required to take an active role in lessons, meet deadlines and carry out independent research. Students will need to be able to think independently and defend their own justifications as well as having enthusiasm, curiosity and willingness to debate.

#### **Career paths:**

Classics combines well with most humanities subjects and English Literature. It develops the communication of ideas and an understanding of the views of others, analysis and interpretation of evidence and investigative research skills. The study of classical antiquity will give students a better understanding of our own identities within the global community and of how the world has become what it is today. Employers therefore look favourably on these skills, as they are adaptable to almost any line of work. Occupations such as law, journalism, politics and writing are just some of the areas where Classics is particularly important. It could be useful in any workplace due to the development of analytical and communication skills.



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**Course title:** Computer Science  
**Awarding Body:** OCR

**Specification Number:** H446

Entry Requirements: Five GCSE or equivalents at grades 9-5 including Computer Science, English and Mathematics. Average GCSE point score 40.

### Course content:

The course is divided into three sections:

#### Component 01: Computer systems

Students are introduced to the internal workings of the (CPU), data exchange, software development, data types and legal and ethical issues. It covers the characteristics of contemporary processors, types of software and the different methodologies used to develop software, data exchange between different systems and more.

#### Component 02: Algorithms and programming

This builds on component 01 to include computational thinking and problem-solving. It covers areas including computational thinking, problem solving and programming

#### Component 03: Programming project

Students apply the principles of computational thinking to a practical coding programming project. They will analyse, design, develop, test, evaluate and document a program written in a suitable programming language. The project is designed to be independently chosen by the student.

### Why study at The Marlborough Science Academy?

Our A Level Computer Science qualification helps students understand the core academic principles of computer science. Classroom learning is transferred into creating real-world systems through the creation of an independent programming project. Students develop technical understanding and an ability to analyse and solve problems using computational thinking.

### Expectations of students:

Students need to be highly interested in the subject and considering following one of the many career paths the subject leads towards. They will also need to be independent problem solvers and committed to investing the substantial time required outside lesson times to master the programming languages introduced.

### Career Path:

Software applications developer, Computer systems engineer, Network systems administrator, Business intelligence analyst, Web developer and Computer programmer.



The Alban Learning Partners Consortium consists of the following five schools:



**Course title:** Dance

**Awarding body:** AQA

**Specification number:** TBC

**Entry requirements:**

GCSE Dance/BTEC Dance or equivalent Dance courses are desirable. Attend regular dance classes outside of school.

**Course content:**

This specification requires students to develop, demonstrate and articulate practical and theoretical knowledge, understanding and experience of:

- Technical and performance skills, the process and art of choreography.
- The interrelationship between the creation, the presentation and the viewing/appreciation of dance works. The development of dance placed within an artistic and cultural context.
- Professional dance works and the significance of these, subject specific terminology and its use.

**In Year 1**, this specification focuses on the development and performance of the candidate's own choreography and performance within a solo and a duet/trio. Candidates receive training on technique and the health and safety of the dancer. They will critically engage with areas of study developing an understanding of dance through time and location. The areas of study cover the genres of modern dance, ballet and jazz dance.

- Component 1: Performance and choreography (choreography and performance of a solo, performance in a duet/trio). Component 2: Critical engagement (written exam on two areas of study).

**In Year 2**, candidates develop skills and extend and apply knowledge gained at AS level. Candidates will be required to perform as a soloist in the style of a practitioner from a prescribed list.

Performance skills are developed and progressed from a duet/trio into a quartet. Choreography will be developed with candidates choreographing a group dance in response to an externally set task. Candidates will continue to critically engage with two set works and areas of study.

- Component 1: Performance and choreography (solo performance, performance in a quartet and group choreography C)
- Component 2: Critical engagement (two set works and two areas of study).

**Why study at The Marlborough Science Academy?**

There are opportunities for candidates to take part in performance and choreography workshops from different dance companies/choreographers to support and enhance learning. A brand new dance/drama studio has recently been built which provides candidates with a sprung floor, mirrors and bars to practise technique. We have partnerships with Hertfordshire Schools that teach GCSE Dance and A Level Dance.



The Alban Learning Partners Consortium consists of the following five schools:

### Expectations of students:

Students are expected to have experience in dance either through studying GCSE Dance or alternatively taking dance classes outside of school. A commitment to rehearsing outside of lesson times is also essential.

### Career paths:

Higher National Diplomas. University Dance Degrees in either dance performance, dance science, dance choreography or dance studies/industry. Would complement any CV for the performing arts/creative arts. Would be helpful to give students confidence for future careers in dance teachers/instructors or choreographers.



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**Course title:** 3D Product Design

**Awarding body:** AQA

**Specification number:** 7552

**Entry requirements:**

GCSE Grade 5 or above in a related Design Technology subject, Resistant Materials, Graphic Products and Engineering. Students who have a GCSE grade 5 or above in Art & Design will have an additional advantage. GCSE points score 38.

**Why study at The Marlborough Science Academy?**

Excellent Technology facilities, experienced staff who are able to pass on a range of skills both practical and theoretical to students which result in high quality outcomes. Full Engineering, Woodwork, Textiles and Graphic Design room with a range of new Technologies including casting, 3D Routing and much more.

**Expectations of students:**

All students will be required to identify and produce their own solutions to design problems. The course will involve the development of design prototypes, and the decisions which justify choice of materials and methods of manufacture. Students will gain knowledge of materials and their uses, production methods along with graphic presentation techniques including the use of CAD (computer aided design in the form of solid works) and CAM (computer aided manufacture). Students will design and make a 3D product with an accompanying design folder.

**Career paths:**

Product design courses  
Media industry/ Graphic design/ Set design/ Model making.  
Engineering (civil engineering/ aviation/ marine/ mechanical)  
Architecture  
Furniture making and design



The Alban Learning Partners Consortium consists of the following five schools:

**Course title:** Drama and Theatre Studies

**Awarding body:** AQA

**Specification number:** 7262

**Entry requirements:**

Students need a 4 in drama at GCSE or 5 or above in English if they haven't done Drama before. The course is now very heavily written and students who haven't done Drama before have to grasp a very different style of writing so need to have achieved well in English at GCSE.

**Course content:**

**Component 1: Drama and theatre (Written Exam) what's assessed in the exam?**

Knowledge and understanding of drama and theatre. Study of two set plays, explored practically through workshop sessions, discussion and performance in class. Theatre trip to London. Analysis and evaluation of the work of production seen. Exam questions about the above elements in one 3 hour written paper.

**Component 2: Creating original drama (practical) what's assessed?**

Devised performance work, in which students may contribute as performer, designer or director. Devised piece must be influenced by the work and methodologies of one prescribed practitioner. Students also complete a working notebook/portfolio of the process of their devised work.

**Component 3: Making theatre (practical) what's assessed?**

Practical exploration and interpretation of three extracts (Extract 1, 2 and 3) each taken from a different play. Methodology of a prescribed practitioner must be applied to Extract 3. Extract 3 is to be performed as a final assessed piece; students may contribute as performer, designer or director. Reflective report analysing and evaluating theatrical interpretation of all three extracts.

**Assessment:**

Assessment will be throughout the course with coursework and performance elements assessed in school and moderated externally. Written exam and final performance exam to visiting examiner.

**Why study Drama & Theatre at The Marlborough Science Academy?**

All students will also be offered the opportunity to study for a LAMDA medal (Grade 6/7 depending on prior experience) which carry UCAS points. Specialist teachers, two drama studios with lighting, opportunities to extend learning through extra-curricular involvement.



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### Expectations of students:

This course is demanding in terms of: - time given to rehearsal, theatre visits, personal and social skills required for group work, research, planning and organisation, intellectual and practical skills.

### Career paths:

Apart from careers in the arts and teaching, Drama and Theatre develops public speaking, presentation skills, critical thinking, teamwork, cultural awareness and personal reflection. The transferrable skills from Drama are important in developing skills which will be invaluable in the workplace. Many of our students go on to study courses in the arts, however just as many find Drama a great facilitating subject for careers including Law, English, Journalism, Broadcasting and Education.



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**Course title:** English Literature A Level A (Linear)

**Awarding body:** AQA

**Specification number:** 7712

**Entry requirements:** Five GCSE grades 9-5 and GCSE points score of 40 or above. Grade 6 or above in both English Literature and English Language GCSE.

**Course content:**

**Paper 1: Love through the Ages**

Written exam making up 40% of A Level. Close study of three texts: one poetry, one pre-1900 and one Shakespeare play. Example texts include: an anthology of love poetry, *Othello* and *The Great Gatsby*.

**Paper 2: Texts in Shared Contexts (Modern texts: Literature from 1945 to the present day)**

Written exam making up 40% of A Level. Close study of three texts: one prose, one poetry and one drama, one of which must be written post-2000. Example texts include: *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *The Help*, and Sylvia Plath poetry.

**Independent Critical Study: Texts Across Time**

Coursework module making up 20% of A Level. One extended essay based on a comparative critical study of two texts. Students choose their own texts based on themes such as: the struggle for identity, the Gothic, satire and dystopia, war and conflict, representations of race and ethnicity or social class and culture.

**Assessment:**

80% Examination      20% Non-Exam Assessment

**Why study at The Marlborough Science Academy?**

The English Faculty at The Marlborough Science Academy is staffed by specialist teachers who have a wealth of knowledge and experience. Results at AS and A Level have been consistently good with the majority of students achieving their target grade or above. English Literature is a popular and well-resourced subject area and lessons are focused on discussion, debate and the sharing of ideas.

**Expectations of students:**

A level English Literature expects students to think and discuss the texts and ask questions. Students will need to do their own reading and research about texts and authors studied. They must learn to study independently and realise that A-level is a step up from GCSE level.

Students are expected to attend external lectures and theatre trips and visits outside school as appropriate.

**Career paths:**

A huge range including Media, Teaching, Publishing, ICT and journalism.



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The Marlborough Science Academy, Watling Street, St Albans, Herts AL1 2QA • Townsend Church of England School, High Oaks, St Albans, Herts AL3 6DR

**Course title:** Film Studies

**Awarding body:** EDUQAS

**Specification number:** A level 603/1147/2

**Entry requirements:**

A love of film and filmmaking and interest in the critical study and analysis of film. You must meet the school's requirements for entry to A levels, including a grade 5 or above in an essay-based subject like English or History.

**Course content:**

**Varieties of Film and Filmmaking**

This two-year course, examined in year two covers a wide range of Film types, Film movements and Film production from a range of nations. Starting with a comparison of Hollywood film from the 'Classic' 1930 - 1960 era with one made between 1960 -1990.

The study of two American Films, one major studio mainstream production and one independent production)

A study of two British films produced after 1995.

**Global Filmmaking**

Comparison of two films, One European and one produced outside Europe

Close study of one Documentary Film

Film Movements -Close study of one silent film

Film Movements – Close study of one experimental film (1960 – 2000)

**Student Production**

Students elect to create their own product from a choice of

Short Film (4-5 minutes), a Screenplay or a digitally photographed storyboard.

Key areas of study across the course will be: -

The construction of Film (Film Language and Grammar, Cinematography, Lighting, Editing, Sound, Narrative structure, Generic conventions)

Contextual issues. The production context, (finance, the organisation of the Film industry in that country, the process of making, distributing marketing and exhibiting film products)

**Assessment:**

Component 1: Varieties of film and filmmaking written examination: 2½ hours 35% of qualification



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Component 2: Global filmmaking perspectives written examination: 2½ hours 35% of qualification

Component 3: Production Non-exam assessment 30% of qualification

**Why at The Marlborough Science Academy?** Opportunities for offsite visits to Film Industry institutions, talks from industry practitioners, well equipped facilities to enable high quality production in coursework units, skilled teaching staff with a wealth of experience of teaching Film Studies.

**Expectations of students:**

Students are expected to keep up to date with all essays and home learning in preparation for exams. Students must be prepared to work well with others and be reliable when making a film with peers.

**Career paths:**

Film Studies is an essay-based subject that shows students have excellent analytical skills. This is recognised by all universities. The range of courses on offer at Universities/Film schools range from the entirely academic or critical perspective to the wholly practical through to those that balance both of these approaches. As the A Level comprises both these elements it allows the student to experience and plan what type of course would be best suited to their undergraduate study. The study of commercial aspects as well as practical coursework elements are also beneficial for students aiming to work directly in the industry.



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**Course title:** French  
**Awarding body:** AQA

**Specification number:** AS 7651 A2 7652

**Entry requirements:**

Five GCSE grades at 9 - 6 and GCSE point score of 42 or above.

Grade 9-7 in or above at GCSE French, students should have a thorough understanding of the grammar of the language.

**Course content:**

In Year 1, students will have the opportunity to extend their skills in listening, speaking, reading and writing through the study of materials related to contemporary France and Francophone countries. The course covers current trends in society and artistic culture. Students will study a set literary text or a film in depth. Students deepen and broaden their competence in the language and explore further social, cultural and political issues. In addition students are required to study a second literary text or film and must complete an individual research project.

**Year 1**

Aspects of French society  
Artistic culture in the French world  
Grammar

**Year 2**

Aspects of French society  
Artistic culture in the French world  
Multiculturalism in French society  
Aspects of political life in French society  
Grammar

**Why study at The Marlborough Science Academy?**

Fully qualified and experienced teaching staff. Study trips abroad and student conferences in London.

**Expectations of students:**

You will be expected to work hard and keep to deadlines.

Students should have an interest in one of the French speaking countries and/or be informed about its history, culture and current events.

Students should preferably have also made a visit to the country concerned and may have the opportunity to take part in a work experience programme in France.

Students must attend conversation lessons, as well as have the self-discipline to learn vocabulary and master French grammar.

**Career paths:**

Knowledge of a foreign language could be the passport to many careers. Most university courses offer languages as a subsidiary subject.

The ability to understand and use French is also a desirable skill in such areas of work as economics and business, marketing, public relations, engineering, tourism, law, education and many more.



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**Course title:** Further Mathematics

**Awarding body:** OCR

**Specification number:** A level OCR H235 H245

**Entry requirements:**

At least a grade 7 at GCSE Higher level plus teacher approval.

**Course content:**

A Level Further Mathematics A qualification provides students with a coherent course of study to develop mathematical understanding, encouraging them to think, act and communicate mathematically. Designed for students who wish to study beyond Mathematics A Level, it provides a solid foundation for further study in mathematics and other disciplines that make extensive use of mathematical skills.

**Assessment: A Level**

A combination of papers including core, mechanics, and statistics.

**Why study at The Marlborough Science Academy?**

Students are taught by specialist teachers, who offer support throughout the duration of the course. This is a course running at The Marlborough Science Academy.

**Expectations of students:**

One of the key aims of the course is to encourage students to develop a deeper understanding of Mathematics, to promote independent thinking and to challenge their thought process when tackling more complex questions. They will be required to use logical thinking and should have an interest in the subject and extending on what they have learnt at GCSE.

**Career paths:**

Mathematics is relevant to other fields of study such as the Sciences, Geography, Economics and Business Studies. If you are considering university courses, A level Maths is essential for some degree options such as Physics, Computing and Engineering as well as being of benefit in Chemistry, Biology, Business and Social Sciences. Its value beyond A level is also recognised. For other career paths A level Mathematics opens opportunities in the world of commerce and business including accounting and banking. Recent research suggests that people with A level Mathematics earn approximately £3,000 p.a. more than those without Mathematics.



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**Course title:** Geography

**Awarding body:** Edexcel

**Specification number:** 9GEO

**Entry requirements:** Total of 5 grades 9 -5 GCSE. Grade 7 in Geography is recommended. GCSE points score 39.

**Course content:**

The Geography course is separated into dynamic landscapes (paper 1) and dynamic places (paper 2). Topics include globalisation, superpowers, the water and carbon cycles, coasts, tectonic hazards and health and human rights. The course also includes an independent investigation which students have full control over.

**Assessment:**

80% exam 20% coursework

**Why study at The Marlborough Science Academy?**

Geography is a dynamic, current and relevant subject. The course at Marlborough brings in all these elements to ensure that students are taught relevant, current and topical concepts in order to develop and provide them with the knowledge and skills to achieve well in the specification. Our A level results have been very strong over the past four years with many students exceeding their targets.

**Expectations of students:**

Interest in Geography including: Fieldwork, people and their interaction with the environment, conservation, politics, environment issues, discussions, debates, wider reading and research.

**Career paths:**

|                   |                               |                     |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| Urban Planning    | Stock-broking                 | Sustainable futures |
| Conservation work | Volcanologist                 | IGO/NGO consultant  |
| Leisure & Tourism | Seismologist                  | Politics            |
| Statistician      | Retail Management             | Surveying           |
| Accountancy       | Demographer                   | Marketing           |
| Explorer          | GIS Specialist                | Engineering         |
| Meteorology       | Architecture                  | Hazard Management   |
| Demographer       | Development worker/aid worker | Energy              |



The Alban Learning Partners Consortium consists of the following five schools:

|                              |                        |
|------------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Course title:</b>         | <b>History</b>         |
| <b>Awarding body:</b>        | AQA                    |
| <b>Specification number:</b> | 7042 (A Level History) |

**Entry requirements:**

5 GCSE grades 9 - 5 and an average point score of 38 or more.

Students will need a GCSE grade 5 or above in History or, if not studied at GCSE, a grade 6 in English. Most importantly, students will need an interest in History.

**Course content:**

The A Level consists of 2 examined units, one based on Britain and the second with a more international focus which are studied concurrently throughout the two-year course.

The British unit is entitled *The Tudors: England, 1485-1603*. This unit allows students to study change, continuity, cause and consequence in the nation at a time of great change and turmoil. Students will investigate issues based on power and politics such as how effectively the Tudors restored and developed the powers of the monarchy, and how effectively England was governed during this period. The continuing question of the succession is also studied. Social history is present in this unit and other domestic themes include changes in the economy and society, the effects of these changes, developments in intellectual and religious ideas and the role of key individuals and groups both in power and outside the political sphere. Finally, students will learn about the changing relations with foreign powers, specifically France and Spain including events such as the Spanish Armada.

The international unit is *The Cold War, c1945-1991*. This unit allows students to study the evolving course of international relations during an era of tension between communist and capitalist powers which threatened nuclear Armageddon in depth. It explores concepts such as communism and anti-communism, aggression and détente and encourages students to reflect on the power of modern military technology, what hastens confrontation and what forces promote peace in the modern world. The course covers events and issues in Europe, Asia and the Americas, such as the origins of the conflict, the Cuban Missile Crisis, the Vietnam War and the collapse of communism in Europe at the end of the 1980s.

Additionally, in the summer of Y12 into the autumn of Y13, students will complete a piece of coursework on *South Africa 1887-1990*. This unit will involve the study of South Africa with a focus on why the Apartheid system ended. Students will learn about the role of Nelson Mandela and analyse this alongside other factors (both internal and external) which contributed to the dramatic events of 1990.



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**Assessment:**

Both examined units are each worth 40% of the final mark. Both exams are sat at the end of the course and are 2½ hours long with one source question and two essay questions. The final 20% of the marks are from the coursework which should be 3500-4500 words long.

**Expectations of students:**

Students are expected to be committed to their studies and to be making progress to meet the demands of History. Students will need enthusiasm, curiosity and willingness to debate. They will be required to take an active role in lessons, meet deadlines and carry out independent research; specifically this entails wider reading – it is vital that students ‘read around the subject’ for all units to ensure that they are able to demonstrate a good depth of understanding of both exam topics and to an even greater degree in their course work.

**Career paths:**

History as a very well established and respected A Level which is held in high esteem by all universities including the most respected institutions, who all appreciate the challenge, range of skills and academic rigour which it requires from, and develops in students. Similarly, employers have a strong respect for History as a qualification because they appreciate the demands of the subject and they are confident students will have acquired valuable transferable skills as well as knowledge and understanding of the past. These include: Understanding of history and development as it applies to nations and groups of people; efficiency in oral and written presentation skills; detailed research skills; proficient interview skills and techniques; proper and accurate record keeping skills; critical thinking skills; strong communications skills.

History is frequently a qualification which provides a route into careers such as law, journalism, management, personnel work, public relations, the Civil Service and many other fields. This is evident in the range of highly respected history graduates from the present and past; figures from television, entertainment and the media include David Mitchell, Nicky Campbell, Simon Mayo, Jeremy Bowen (BBC foreign affairs correspondent), Sacha Baron Cohen, Jonathan Ross, Louis Theroux, Marmaduke Hussey (formerly BBC Chairman of Governors), Brian Walden (TV interviewer), Salman Rushdie (author), Andrew Morton (biographer), Alan Bennett (playwright) and Melvyn Bragg. From the USA, Steve Carell (Actor/Writer/Producer), Conan O'Brien (Comedian/Writer), Larry David (Comedian/Writer), Katharine Hepburn (Actress), John Lithgow (Actor), Ellen Barkin (Actress), Lauryn Hill (Singer/Actress) and Jimmy Buffett (Singer/Songwriter) are all history alumni.

In politics Gordon Brown, Alan Milburn, John Prescott, David Blunkett, Douglas Hurd, Sir Chris Patten, Kenneth Baker, Neil Kinnock, Kenneth Clarke, John McGregor, John Gummer and Douglas Hogg are all successful historians. Members of the Civil Service who studied history include Dame Ruth Runciman (Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs), David Collett (director of VSO), Martin Gorham (chief executive of the National Blood Service) and John Abbott (director general of the National Criminal Intelligence Service). There are leading individuals in law who graduated as



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historians, for example QC Michael Briggs and QC Michael Mansfield in the UK, and across the Atlantic Elena Kagan, Antonin Scalia, Anthony Kennedy (all U.S. Supreme Court Justices), along with Eric Holder (former Attorney General of the United States).

There are also numerous successful historians in the business world. From the UK, Sir Howard Stringer (previous chairman of Sony Corporation), Sir Roland Smith (previous director of the Bank of England), Sir Robert Gunn (former Chairman of Boots), Lord Sainsbury, Gerald Corbett (Chief Executive of Railtrack and then chairman of SSL International). From the US Martha Stewart (Businesswoman/Author), Lee Iacocca (Industrialist/Former CEO of Chrysler/Author), Sam Palmisano (CEO of IBM Corporation) and Chris Hughes (Co-founder of Facebook). Ironically maybe, trade union leaders such as Philip Bowyer, David Davies and John Monk also have a history background.

There is a 'history' of the subject producing great leaders, such as Winston Churchill, and many US Presidents including Franklin D. Roosevelt, Theodore Roosevelt, Woodrow Wilson, John F. Kennedy, Dwight Eisenhower and (at the time of writing) maybe Joe Biden!



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|                              |                       |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Course title:</b>         | <b>Mathematics</b>    |
| <b>Awarding body:</b>        | OCR                   |
| <b>Specification number:</b> | A level OCR H230 H240 |

**Entry requirements:**

At least a grade 7 at GCSE Higher level. Due to the nature of the course, students whose predicted grade is less than 7 will struggle with the full A level course. GCSE points score 42.

**Course content:**

Students will cover pure, statistics and mechanics. The course is designed to build upon the Higher-level material covered at GCSE, with students looking at more complex sequences, index laws, trigonometric graphs, simultaneous equations and algebraic functions. The course also looks at differentiation and integration within pure mathematics. Statistics looks at hypothesis testing, probability and the normal distribution and is a follow on from the statistics covered at GCSE. The mechanics component links to the material covered in Physics AS/A level, and looks at vectors, kinematics, Newton's laws and friction.

**Assessment: A Level**

3 x 2 hour written papers (all equal weighting):

Paper 1: Core

Paper 2: Core and Statistics

Paper 3: Core and Mechanics

**Why study at The Marlborough Science Academy?**

Students are taught by 3 specialist teachers, who offer support throughout the duration of the course. Results over the past few years have been excellent.

**Expectations of students:**

One of the key aims of the course is to encourage students to develop a deeper understanding of Mathematics, to promote independent thinking and to challenge their thought process when tackling more complex questions. They will be required to use logical thinking and should have an interest in the subject and extending on what they have learnt at GCSE.

**Career paths:**

Mathematics is relevant to other fields of study such as the Sciences, Geography, Economics and Business Studies. If you are considering university courses, A level Maths is essential for some degree options such as Physics, Computing and Engineering as well as being of benefit in Chemistry, Biology, Business and Social Sciences. Its value beyond A level is also recognised. For other career paths A level Mathematics opens opportunities in the world of commerce and business including accounting and banking. Recent research suggests that people with A level Mathematics earn approximately £3,000 p.a. more than those without Mathematics.



The Alban Learning Partners Consortium consists of the following five schools:



**Course title:** Media Studies

**Awarding body:** Eduqas

**Specification number:** A level 603/1149/6

**Entry requirements:**

A love of print, television and online and an interest in the critical study of the media's role in society. You must meet the school's requirements for entry to A levels, including a grade 5 or above in an essay-based subject like English or History.

**Course content:**

This two-year course, examined in year two covers a wide range of Media Forms (Print products, Advertisements across all media, Moving image media – Film Video TV. Computer Games, Radio and online media). Key concepts that run through the analysis of different media types comprise **Construction** (media language and techniques used in their composition) **Representation** (how media products differently represent groups of people (Gender, Ethnicity, Age, Nationality) Issues and ideas. **Genre** and generic conventions. **Narrative** structures and Ideology. **Audience** –How far we and wider culture may be affected or shaped by media messages. How far we might use them in the creation of our identity. Consideration is also given to what pleasures and benefits we may gain from our use of Media, notions of how much choice we have in the production of and access to media products. Additionally, consideration will be given to Ideas of ourselves as Media producers.

**Institution and Regulation** analysis and investigation of the processes and functioning of both large corporations and small independent media producers together with an overview of the statutory bodies that regulate each Media Sector.

Students will be examined through two exam components

**Component 1** Exam 35%

**Analysing Media Language and Representation.** Based on two of the following forms: Advertising, marketing, music video or newspapers. (One question on an unseen print or moving image product and one question on a set studied text and an unseen audio visual or print text)

**Sect B Understanding Media Industries and Audiences.** One stepped question on media industries. One stepped question on Audiences. Questions may be based on two of the following media forms advertising, marketing, film, newspapers radio, video games.

**Component 2** Exam 35%

**Media forms and products in-depth** 35%

**Areas of assessment** Media language, representation, media industries, audiences and media contexts.

**SECTION A - Television in the Global Age**

**SECTION B -Magazines – Mainstream and Alternative Media**

**SECTION C -Media in an Online Age**

**Student Production** Cross Media Production 30%

Individual cross media production chosen by the student in response to a choice of briefs set by the board.



The Alban Learning Partners Consortium consists of the following five schools:





**Assessment:**

Presently each year is assessed through Exam 70% Coursework module 30%

**Why study at The Marlborough Science Academy?**

Opportunities for offsite visits to Media institutions, talks from industry practitioners, well equipped facilities to enable high quality production in coursework units, skilled teaching staff with a wealth of experience of teaching Media Studies across a range of boards.

**Expectations of students:**

Students are expected to keep up to date with all essays and home learning in preparation for exams. Students must be prepared to work well with others and be reliable when working with peers.

**Career paths:**

The media industry is one of the fastest growing areas of the economy and media studies combines well with a number of other courses at universities. This is a rigorous course involving theoretical perspectives, critical analysis combined with practical production and thus demonstrates to Universities essay writing and analytical skills as well as practical ones. As the course covers a wide range of media, from Film, TV, Print Media to Digital Media students gain a broad grounding and insight across the range of creative industries. For students wishing to enter the Media this is the perfect foundation to a work placement or beginning of a career in the Creative industries.



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**Course title: Philosophy and Ethics**

**Awarding body: AQA (Religious Studies)**

**Specification number: 7062**

**Entry requirements:**

5 GCSE 9 - 5 grades, preferably 5 in at least one written and analytical related subject e.g. English or History. GCSE points score 38.

“at the discretion of schools and colleges” from AQA

**Course content:**

**Philosophy of Religion and Ethics**

**Philosophy of religion:** Arguments for the existence of God, evil and suffering, religious experience, religious language, miracles, self and life after death.

**Ethics and religion:** Ethical theories, issues of human life and death, issues of animal life and death, meta ethics, free will and moral responsibility, conscience, Bentham and Kant.

**Study of Religion and Dialogues**

**Study of Christianity**

Sources of wisdom and authority, God/gods/ultimate reality, self, death and the afterlife, good conduct and key moral principles, expression of religious identity, gender and sexuality, science, secularisation and religious pluralism.

**The dialogue between philosophy of religion, ethical studies and religion**

How religion is influenced by, and has influence on philosophy of religion and ethical studies relating to issues studied

**Assessment:**

Philosophy of Religion and Ethics – 3 hours, 50% of A-Level

Study of Religion and Dialogues – 3 hours, 50% of A-Level

There is a mixture of medium length evaluation questions in both papers and longer questions focusing on critical analysis in the second paper.

**Why Religious Studies at The Marlborough Science Academy?**

Teachers at Marlborough are incredibly enthusiastic and love teaching their subject. Whilst being engaging and thought-provoking, lessons are still informative, and will help students to go on to study a range of differing subjects at university.

**Expectations of students:**

Students must have good analytical skills and be able to communicate well both in written work and verbally. An interest in current events and the ability to offer comparative viewpoints, as well as debate, would also be a strength.

**Career paths:**

Community and youth work, teaching, journalism, policing, medicine, law, social care, psychology, human resources, diversity and inclusion work.



The Alban Learning Partners Consortium consists of the following five schools:



**Course title:** Photography

**Awarding body:** Edexcel

**Specification number:** 9PY01

**Entry requirements:**

5 GCSE's grades 5 and above, some experience of taking photographs and preferable a 5 in Art. A genuine interest in visual arts and other cultures. Enthusiasm. Ability to work independently and with maturity.

**Course content:**

5 hours per week (plus independent study 4 hours per week)

Learning how to take interesting pictures, develop film, controlled printing in the dark room, using studio equipment as well as electronic imaging. Manipulation of photographs using artistic approaches and materials. Students explore projects theme/s using the camera as their medium.

Research and analysis of artists and photographers work to inform their own ideas.

A final practical exam set by the exam board.

**Assessment:**

60% Coursework

40% Practical Exam

**Why study at The Marlborough Science Academy?**

You will be supported by excellent teaching staff who have an excellent record of student achievement in the subject. Teaching skills include Darkroom practice, technical camera skills, computer aided design and practical hand manipulation skills using art techniques. We have a well-equipped darkroom as well as professional photography backdrops and lights.

**Expectations of students:**

You will need to keep a folder throughout the 2 years of all your thoughts and photographs you have taken. Be motivated enough to manage your own time effectively and expect to take much of your photography in your own time for use in the lessons.

**Career paths:**

Further your study in Photography; H.N.D, Foundation Degrees, First Degrees and Employment.



The Alban Learning Partners Consortium consists of the following five schools:



**Course title:** Physics

**Awarding body:** Edexcel

**Specification number:** 9PH0

**Entry requirements:**

This subject assumes an understanding of the Physics of GCSE science.

Five GCSE grades at 9 – 5 and a GCSE points score of 42 or above.

Grade 77 for GCSE Double Science or 7 grade GCSE Physics.

A minimum grade 5 in GCSE Maths is also an entry requirement.

**Course content:**

Many of the areas of study extend from the Physics component of the GCSE science course and include: Mechanics, Electricity, Waves, Fields, Astrophysics and Practical investigations.

**Assessment:**

Three written exams (90, 90 and 120mins) form the A level exam

Students' skills and technical competency when completing practical work will be assessed by teachers. This will form the basis for the award of a Practical Endorsement at A level. This is separate to the A level grade and, if awarded, will be reported as a 'Pass' on A level certificates for students who achieve it.

**Why Physics at The Marlborough Science Academy?**

"There is a reason for everything" and that reason is usually Physics. Physics at Marlborough is delivered by Physics A Level specialist, with a wealth of experience. We are a well-resourced Science Faculty with a passionate staff who strive to make Physics come alive!

**Expectations of students:**

Minimum Mathematics skills include the ability to rearrange formulae and to plot and interpret line graphs. The study of AS Mathematics is preferable but by no means essential.

Investigative skills are important, as are problem-solving skills. This will include the interpretation and manipulation of data. You will need to be able to think logically. You should be able to work independently as well as part of a team.

**Career paths:**

The problem solving nature of Physics and the application of theory makes this course, an extremely useful foundation for further study and careers in the following areas: Aeronautics, Architecture, Electrical Engineering, Computer Science, Mechanical Engineering, Medicine, Forensic Science and many others.



The Alban Learning Partners Consortium consists of the following five schools:

**Course title:** Politics

**Awarding body:** AQA

**Specification number:** 7152

**Entry requirements:**

5 GCSE 9 - 5 grades, preferably 5 in at least one written and analytical related subject e.g. English or History. GCSE points score 38.

**Course content:**

**Government and Politics of the United Kingdom**

The nature and sources of the British Constitution, The structure and role of Parliament  
The Prime Minister and cabinet, The judiciary, Devolution, Elections and referendums, Political Parties, Pressure groups, The European Union

**Government and Politics of the United States**

The constitutional framework of US government, The legislative branch of government: Congress, The executive branch of government: President, The judicial branch of government, The electoral process and direct democracy, Political parties, Pressure groups, Civil rights

**Political Ideas**

The nature of political thought and ideas, a global look at Liberalism, Conservatism, Socialism and Nationalism

**Assessment:**

Government and Politics of the UK 2 hours, Government and Politics of the USA 2 hours, Political Ideas 2 hours. There is a mixture of medium length 'explain' questions and longer essay style questions in each paper.

**Why at Politics at The Marlborough Science Academy?**

Teachers at Marlborough have a long history of helping students get excellent results. Every year students go on to study politics at university. The lessons are extremely interactive and will help students develop their own critical thinking skills as well as preparing them for a rapidly changing world of work.

**Expectations of students:**

Good written and oral communication skills, the ability to analyse and interpret articles and some statistical data, some debating skills and power of argument, an interest in the news and current affairs would also be useful.

**Career paths:**

Law and legal affairs. Politics and civil service careers at a local and national level.  
Journalism and news related work. Management and problem solving.



The Alban Learning Partners Consortium consists of the following five schools:



**Course title:** Psychology

**Awarding body:** AQA

**Specification number:** AS 7181 A2 7182

**Entry requirements:**

GCSE points score 40. At least a grade 5 in Maths, English and Science.

**Course content:**

Psychology will appeal to a cross-section of students, regardless of whether they have studied the subject before. It builds on skills developed in the sciences and humanities which enables progression into a wide range of other subjects.

Students are then able to develop their understanding through a number of applications including Criminology, Relationships, Aggression and Addiction in Psychology. Students will also conduct a number of practical investigations and develop an understanding of how science works. These qualifications are linear. Linear means that students will sit all the AS exams at the end of their AS course and all the A-level exams at the end of their A-level course.

**Assessment:**

**Year 1**

**Paper 1:** Introductory Topics in Psychology is worth 50% of the overall AS grade.

**Paper 2:** Psychology in Context is worth 50% of the overall AS grade.

**Year 2**

For the full A Level course you will need to take all three papers together in the same exam series to achieve this qualification.

**Paper 1:** Introductory Topics in Psychology is worth 33.3% of the full A Level grade.

**Paper 2:** Psychology in Context is worth 33.3% of the full A Level grade.

**Paper 3:** Issues and Options in Psychology is worth 33.3% of the full A Level grade.

Students learning with us will study the following three options:

Relationships, Gender, Cognition and Development.

Schizophrenia, eating behaviour and stress.

Addiction, Forensic Psychology and aggression.



The Alban Learning Partners Consortium consists of the following five schools:



### Why study at The Marlborough Science Academy?

AQA Psychology at Marlborough is full of explanations, helpful tips, exercises and assessments to help you achieve the best possible grade in your examination. You will be guided carefully through the syllabus in stages so that you will see your skills and knowledge improving week by week.

### Expectations of students:

Positive attitude to learning

- Interested in people and how they work
- Good critical thinking skills
- Good investigation skills
- Ability to remember theories and studies

### Career paths:

Teacher, Marketing, advertising, Health professional, Sports Psychology, Educational Psychologist, Criminal Psychologist, Therapist, The Police, Business. Any job where you work with people



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|                              |                  |
|------------------------------|------------------|
| <b>Course title:</b>         | <b>Sociology</b> |
| <b>Awarding body:</b>        | AQA              |
| <b>Specification number:</b> | AS 7191 A2 7192  |

**Entry requirements:**

GCSE points score 40. At least a grade 5 in Maths, English and Science.

**Course content:**

Sociology is a fascinating subject with its many interesting theories and topics it will appeal to anyone interested in understanding the world they live in. Sociology allows you to challenge the taken for granted and critically examine and explain the social world around you whilst considering alternative points of view.

Students are then able to develop their understanding of social structures, processes and issues through a number of skills including critical thinking and evidence-based arguments in its application to examined units. They include Families and Households (Roles, Relationships and Conflict), Education (the experience of schooling and the influence of Social Class, Gender and Ethnicity on achievement), Crime, Deviance and Social Control Theory and Beliefs in Society. A thorough understanding of Sociological Research Methods is also established in the first year and developed further in the second year. An understanding of the Scientific Method is encouraged, and important questions are built in such as what is ethical research? What makes data good? Can humans be studied scientifically and should values influence the research process or not? Is Sociology a Science? What is Science?

All 3 exams are taken at the end of Year 2. Each paper is worth 33.3% of the final grade.

**Assessment:**

For the full A Level course you will need to take all three papers together in the same exam series to achieve this qualification.

**Paper 1:** Education with Theory and Methods is worth 33.3% of the full A Level grade.

**Paper 2:** Families and Households and Beliefs in Society is worth 33.3% of the full A Level grade.

**Paper 3:** Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods is worth 33.3% of the full A Level grade.

Students learning Sociology at Marlborough will study the following two AQA options:

Option 2 Families and Households

Option 1 (Beliefs in Society) though this may be subject to change\*

**Why study at The Marlborough Science Academy?**

AQA Sociology at Marlborough is full of thought-provoking questions, arguments, explanations, and evidence-based studies with helpful tips, exercises and assessments to help you achieve the best



The Alban Learning Partners Consortium consists of the following five schools:



possible grade in your examination. A range of teaching and learning styles are embedded throughout the course. You will be guided carefully through the syllabus in stages so that you will see your skills and knowledge improving week by week. Written feedback and diagnostic target setting will help you achieve aspirational outcomes.

### Expectations of students:

Positive attitude to learning

- Interested in people and how they behave in social groups
- Good critical thinking skills
- Good investigation skills
- Ability to remember theories and studies

### Career paths:

- Politics, Social Policy
- Charitable organisations
- Media and Film industry
- Digital Marketing
- Advertising
- Journalism
- Law
- Criminal Justice System (Criminology)
- Teaching, Education and Early Years
- Social welfare
- Health care professionals
- Civil Service
- Business
- Any job where you work with people



The Alban Learning Partners Consortium consists of the following five schools:



**Course title:** Spanish

**Awarding body:** AQA

**Specification number:** AS 7691 A2 7692

**Entry requirements:**

Five GCSE grades at 9 – 6 in and above 9 – 7 at GCSE Spanish students should have a thorough understanding of the grammar of the language.

**Course content:**

At AS level, students will have the opportunity to extend their skills in listening, speaking, reading and writing through the study of materials related to contemporary Spanish and South American countries. Topics included are the family, leisure, education, the media, the environment, immigration and multiculturalism.

At A2 level, students continue to develop their competence in language and explore further social, cultural and political issues. In addition, a literary text or topic may be studied.

**Assessment:**

Year 1

Aspects of Hispanic society

Artistic culture in the Hispanic world

Grammar

Year 2

Aspects of Hispanic society

Artistic culture in the Hispanic world

Multiculturalism in Hispanic society

Aspects of political life in Hispanic society

Grammar

**Why study at The Marlborough Science Academy?**

Fully qualified and experienced teaching staff. Study trips abroad and student conferences in London.

**Expectations of students:**

Students should have an interest in one of the Spanish speaking countries and/or be informed about its history, culture and current events.

Students should preferably have also made a visit to the country concerned.

Students must attend conversation lessons with the assistant, as well as have the self-discipline to learn vocabulary and master Spanish grammar.

**Career paths:**

Spanish has long been recognised as providing a sound background to academic studies.

Understanding and using Spanish is a desirable skill in many areas of work. Spanish is in demand in banking, insurance, marketing, science and technology, journalism, tourism, law, education and engineering.



The Alban Learning Partners Consortium consists of the following five schools:



Outstanding learning for all



# The Marlborough Science Academy

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The qualification carries UCAS points and is recognised by higher education providers as contributing to admission requirements for many courses.

Due to the content of the course career pathways are linked to the travel and tourism industry. This industry is one of the fastest and growing industries in the UK. The value of tourism to the UK economy is approximately £126 billion, and the sector employs around 3.1 million people.

## ADDITIONAL COURSE PROVISION

### *Alban Learning Partners*

Currently students from Marlborough access courses provided by our consortium partner schools that we do not provide. This enables students to choose from a wider array of subjects. Admission on to those subjects depends upon subject availability, spaces and specific course entry requirements.

Currently our students access the following courses at our learning partner schools;

**Economics**

**Music BTEC**

**Food Technology**

We invite students to indicate on their options form if they would like to study a subject at a consortium school and will again make contact when we have more information about availability of these courses.

More information about the Alban Learning Partners and the courses available at each school can be found at [www.albanlearningpartners.com](http://www.albanlearningpartners.com)



## Enrichment Qualifications

### Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)

The Extended Project Qualifications (EPQ) are stand-alone qualifications that help students develop broader study and research skills, offering a route into further and higher education and employment. They are flexible and can be easily integrated to enrich your curriculum. Together, they offer students a way of acquiring sophisticated study skills and a route into Higher Education and employment. The

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EPQ is a student-driven qualification, giving them the freedom and responsibility to select topics and projects they are interested in. When completing a project qualification, students follow a clearly structured process: they plan, research their topic and create a product. The product of their project can be in one of three formats:

- a research-based written report
- a production, supported by a written report (e.g. charity event, fashion show, sports event etc.)
- an artifact, supported by a written report (e.g. a piece of art, a computer game, a realised design).

This work is all recorded in their Production Log and, finally, students deliver a presentation. During the process, they develop as independent, reflective learners and acquire knowledge and transferable skills that are invaluable for further study and the workplace. Students are assessed on the product of their project and on the process itself.

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