Ursuline
SIXTH FORM
WIMBLEDON




# URSULINE SIXTH FORM

# COURSE GUIDE

For September 2027
(including subjects taught at Wimbledon College)

Belong
& Succeed

SANCTA FAMILIA
CATHOLIC ACADEMY TRUST

Ursuline SIXTH FORM WIMBLEDON

## General


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- Business and Management
- Digital Software Development
- Health

## A Levels

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- Chemistry
- Computer Science
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## Other Level 3 Courses

- Extended Project Qualification
- Performing Arts Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate

## Level 2 Courses

- English Language GCSE
- Mathematics GCSE
- Level 2 Foundation Certificate

# Welcome to the Ursuline Sixth Form Course Guide

For September 2027 (including subjects taught at Wimbledon College)

Choosing your Sixth Form courses is an exciting time, and we are here to guide you through this important process.

This booklet provides comprehensive information about the diverse range of academic and vocational courses offered by Ursuline High School and Wimbledon College. For each course, you will find details about the examination board, a brief course outline, an overview of the knowledge and skills you will develop, and the methods of assessment and examination.

## Choosing the right course

### Advanced Level

A Levels are advanced level qualifications that provide in-depth knowledge and understanding of specific subjects, preparing students for higher education and professional careers. They are highly regarded by universities and employers worldwide, and we offer a broad range of subjects from sciences and humanities to languages and arts. A Levels involve rigorous academic study and are assessed primarily through exams, with some subjects including practical assessments, oral examinations, or coursework components.

### T Levels

We offer a T Level in Business and Management, Digital Software Development, or Health. T Levels are an alternative to A Levels, apprenticeships and other 16 to 19 courses. Equivalent in size to 3 A Levels, a T Level focuses on vocational skills and can help students into skilled employment, higher study, or apprenticeships. Each T Level includes an in-depth industry placement that lasts at least 45 days.

T Level students spend 80% of the course in their learning environment, gaining employers' skills. The other 20% is a meaningful industry placement, where they implement these skills.

### Level 2 Programme

This one-year course is suitable for students who have not yet achieved the required grades to progress to Level 3 qualifications. Upon successful completion, students will be well-prepared to advance to Level 3 programmes or apprenticeships, paving the way for future academic and career opportunities.

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# List of courses on offer

## Level 3 – Two Year Courses

### T Level Qualifications

- T Level Business and Management
- T Level Health
- T Level Digital Software Development

### Advanced Level

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- Biology
- Business
- Chemistry
- Computer Science
- Drama
- Economics
- English Language
- English Literature
- Film Studies
- French
- Geography
- History
- Mathematics
- Further Mathematics
- Music
- PE
- Physics
- Photography
- Politics
- Psychology
- Religious Studies
- Sociology
- Spanish

### Vocational Qualifications

- Performing Arts Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate

### Advanced Subsidiary Level or Equivalent

- Extended Project

### Level 2 – One Year Pathway

**GCSE**

- Mathematics
- English Language
- Level 2 Foundation Certificate

*We expect to offer all the courses above, but staffing constraints or student choices may mean that we are unable to offer some courses.*

To ensure you choose the right course, it's important to discuss your options with your tutor, Head of Year, or Head of Sixth Form. Both schools offer access to specialist careers advisors who can provide valuable insights. Your current teachers can also give you a good understanding of your abilities and recommend courses that will best suit you. If you're new to the Sixth Form, you can seek advice after submitting your application. Keep in mind that final decisions regarding which subjects or courses you can take will be made in August, based on your examination results and career aspirations. When selecting your courses, consider the following factors:

- **Your interests and strengths:** Choose subjects that excite you and align with your skills.
- **Future goals:** Think about how the courses will support your career ambitions or university applications.
- **Workload and assessment methods:** Understand the demands of each course, including assignments and exams, to ensure you can manage your time effectively.

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# T Level Courses

Studying a T Level at our sixth form is an excellent opportunity for students seeking a blend of academic knowledge and practical experience. These new technical qualifications are equivalent to three A Levels and are designed in collaboration with industry leaders to ensure they meet the needs of the workplace. Below is a list of reasons to study a T Level:

**Comprehensive Qualification:** T Levels are equivalent to three A Levels and provide a rigorous blend of theoretical and practical knowledge.

**Industry-Relevant Design:** These qualifications are developed in partnership with over 250 employers, ensuring that the curriculum meets the current needs of various industries.

**Substantial Industry Placement:** Students will undertake a significant placement in a relevant industry, gaining hands-on experience that enhances their employability.

**Career Pathways:** T Levels prepare students for multiple pathways, including direct employment, apprenticeships, or further study, providing a competitive edge in the job market.

**Focus on Real-World Applications:** The courses are designed to equip students with the skills and knowledge that are directly applicable to real-world scenarios, making them well-rounded candidates for future careers.

# Level 2 Programme - One Year Pathway

Students on our one-year course will study GCSE English Language, GCSE Mathematics, and Level 2 Foundation Certificate. These subjects are crucial for gaining access to apprenticeships, entering the workforce, and progressing to Level 3 courses. This pathway lasts one academic year.

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# Business

## Course Summary

Ursuline SIXTH FORM WIMBLEDON

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### WHY SHOULD I STUDY THIS COURSE?

This course will enable students to develop knowledge of a broad range of issues relevant to business, management and administration sectors, leading to university, apprenticeship or employment.

### COURSE FUNDAMENTALS

**Core:**

- Business context and governnance
- People, organisation culture and behaviours
- Quality, regulation and organisational control
- Financial resources and performance
- Project and change management

**Occupational Specialism:**

- Lead and manage individuals and teams
- Build relationships with colleagues, customers and stakeholders
- Deliver core operational tasks and plans
- Manage and implement projects
- Apply governance and compliance requirements

### EXAMINATION / ASSESSMENT

During Year 12 students will be examined on two core modules and complete an employer set project (9 hours).
During Year 13 students will complete the Occupational Specialism which is an externally set assignment (25 hours).

All projects and exams are externally set and marked. The industrial placement is also a compulsory element of the course and is required to achieve the T Level.

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# Digital Software Development

## Course Summary

Ursuline SIXTH FORM WIMBLEDON

Belong & Succeed

### WHY SHOULD I STUDY THIS COURSE?

You will learn how to design, develop, test and improve software solutions. You will build knowledge and practical skills in areas such as programming, software development, computational thinking, data, digital technologies, cybersecurity, emerging technologies and how digital systems are used within organisations.

You will also develop important professional skills, including analysing user requirements, planning digital projects, solving technical problems, testing solutions and working effectively as part of a team.

The qualification provides a strong pathway into careers such as software development, programming, web and application development, software testing and other digital roles.

### COURSE FUNDAMENTALS

- Students complete a substantial industry placement with a prestigious employer to gain first-hand experience and develop the necessary skills that digital companies demand
- Learners gain an understanding of core theories, concepts and skills necessary for the digital industry
- Students develop specialist skills and knowledge necessary for a future career in the digital world

### EXAMINATION / ASSESSMENT

During Year 12 students will be examined on two core modules and complete an employer set project. During Year 13 there is an integration project to complete for the occupational specialism element of the course.

All projects and exams are externally set and marked. The industrial placement is also a compulsory element of the course and is required to achieve the T Level.

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T LEVEL | PEARSON

# Health

Course Summary

Ursuline SIXTH FORM WIMBLEDON

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## WHY SHOULD I STUDY THIS COURSE?

This course enables students to develop the knowledge and skills needed for a wide range of health-related professions. Students will explore anatomy and physiology, scientific and clinical practice, and what it means to work within the health and science sectors.

They will also develop their understanding of core scientific concepts, including cells, tissues and large molecules, microbiology, genetics and immunology.

Health-specific topics include understanding the healthcare sector, supporting health and wellbeing, and providing effective person-centred care.

A key part of the course is an exciting 45-day industry placement, giving students valuable experience in a real healthcare setting while developing the practical, professional and personal skills needed for a successful career in healthcare.

## COURSE FUNDAMENTALS

**Year 12:** Build your foundation knowledge of the healthcare sector, science, safety, safeguarding, infection control, person-centred care and professional skills.

**Year 13:** Specialise in Adult Nursing, developing practical skills to support adults with clinical tasks, activities of daily living and skin integrity, while applying your knowledge in realistic healthcare settings and industry placement.

## EXAMINATION / ASSESSMENT

**Year 12:** two external examinations and an Employer Set Project, where you apply your knowledge and skills to an employer-set healthcare brief.

**Year 13:** students complete three externally assessed synoptic assessments covering: Clinical tasks, activities of daily living and independence and skin integrity

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# Art

## Course Summary

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### WHY SHOULD I STUDY THIS COURSE?

The Art course is an exciting and creative course that ensures the practical skill development of drawing, painting, photography, textiles, sculpture and design.

The course provides students with opportunities to develop personal responses to ideas, observations, experiences, environments and cultures in practical, critical and contextual forms.

### COURSE FUNDAMENTALS

- Students gain experience of working with a range of relevant materials, processes, technologies and resources.
- Students explore how ideas, feelings and meanings can be conveyed and interpreted in images and artefacts developing a working vocabulary and specialist terminology.
- Students develop an appreciation of how images and artefacts relate to the time and place in which they were made and to their social and cultural contexts.

### EXAMINATION / ASSESSMENT

This A level consists of 2 components: Personal Portfolio and an Externally Set Assignment

The Personal Portfolio is worth 60% of the overall grade. The Externally Set assignment is worth 40% of the overall grade. The Personal Portfolio incorporates three major elements: supporting studies, practical work, and a personal study.

Personal Portfolio skills are developed starting at the beginning of Year 12 and lead in to the Personal Portfolio project starting in Summer B and continuing to the end of Autumn B of the second year. Students have to work in at least two disciplines. Graphics, sculpture, Textiles, Fine Art are examples of the disciplines students can choose from.

The Externally Set assignment incorporates two major elements: preparatory studies and a 15–hour period of sustained focus. The externally set assignment title is released on 1st February culminating in the 15-hour exam (sustained focus) in April.

The students' work is both internally assessed throughout the year and externally assessed at the end of the course.

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# Biology

## Course Summary

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### WHY SHOULD I STUDY THIS COURSE?

In biology you need a critical and questioning approach, enthusiasm, and a real interest in the subject. The course develops the fundamental principles of biology and helps nurture a passion for the subject through practical investigation and engaging learning.

People wishing to go further in the following fields would be well suited to the course: biological sciences, medicine/medical fields, dentistry, veterinary medicine, marine biology and forensics.

### COURSE FUNDAMENTALS

- Students cover topics including biological molecules, cells, organisms and exchange substances.
- The course covers areas on genetics, variation, the control of gene expression
- Students study relationships between organisms, energy transfers in and between organisms, how organisms respond to changes in internal and external environments, evolution and ecosystems

### EXAMINATION / ASSESSMENT

The A level course assessment consists of three externally examined papers, each 2 hours in length.

Practical skills are assessed through core practical activities within the two years and the theory is tested through each examination.

A certificate is delivered at the end of the A Level course.

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# Business

## Course Summary

Ursuline SIXTH FORM WIMBLEDON

Belong & Succeed

## WHY SHOULD I STUDY THIS COURSE?

The course introduces students to a range of challenges and issues faced when starting a new business.

They will cover the key areas of finance, marketing, HR and operations as well as investigating case studies to see how successful business strategies have been implemented.

Finally, they will look at changes in the broad business environment and how businesses respond.

## COURSE FUNDAMENTALS

- Knowledge of basic business concepts and key business terms.
- Critical understanding of how organisations are managed.
- Evaluative skills applied to case studies.
- Broad appreciation of the wider societal context.
- Decision-making and problem solving skills.
- Numerical analysis of current data.
- Written and oral English
- Independent research
- Team working
- Presentation skills

### Course Content: Year 12

- What is business?
- Managers, leadership and decision making
- Decision making to improve marketing performance
- Decision making to improve operational performance
- Decision making to improve financial performance
- Decision making to improve

### Course Content: Year 13

- Analysing the strategic position of a business
- Choosing strategic direction
- Strategic methods: how to pursue strategies
- Managing strategic change

## EXAMINATION / ASSESSMENT

For AQA A level Business, students sit three written papers. Each lasts 2 hours, carries 90 marks, and counts for one-third of the A level.

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A LEVEL | OCR

# Chemistry

## Course Summary

Ursuline SIXTH FORM WIMBLEDON

Belong & Succeed

## WHY SHOULD I STUDY THIS COURSE?

This course suits logical students and enables students to have access to a diverse range of courses at university such as Biochemistry, Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy, Pharmacology, Environmental Sciences and Forensics.

## COURSE FUNDAMENTALS

- In chemistry, students learn how the study of properties of materials enables chemists to deduce how elements are bonding. They will observe and explain patterns in the Periodic Table, as well as explore the group of Transition metals in detail.
- Students will also learn about Organic chemicals, such as Alkanes, Alkenes, Alcohols, Halogenoalkanes and many more. Students develop problem solving skills through the use of infra red spectroscopy and nuclear magnetic resonance data.
- They will use mathematics to work out the amount of chemicals in a given substance. They will investigate equilibria and how equilibria can be displaced.
- Students will understand how the speed of reactions can be controlled and how mathematical relationships in kinetics enable the chemist to deduce how chemicals react with one another.

## EXAMINATION / ASSESSMENT

At the end of Year 13, the A Level assessment consists of three papers.

**Paper 1** is 2 hours and 15 minutes in length and examines physical and inorganic chemistry.

**Paper 2** is also 2 hours and 15 minutes in length and examines organic chemistry.

**Paper 3** is a synoptic paper and lasts for 1 hour and 30 minutes.

Practical chemistry is examined in all three papers. Students' practical skills will be assessed through activities over the whole course with students working towards a Science Practical Endorsement. This will not contribute to the overall grade for the qualification, but the result will be recorded on the students A level certificate.

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# Computer Science

## Course Summary

### WHY SHOULD I STUDY THIS COURSE?

This A level focuses on programming and emphasises the importance of computational thinking as a discipline. The course also has a focus on maths, though much of this will be embedded in the course.

Students will solve problems and design systems and software and will apply the academic principles learned in the classroom to real world systems.

### COURSE FUNDAMENTALS

- Components of a computer and their uses
- Types of software and the methodologies used to develop them
- How data is exchanged between systems
- How data is represented and stored in different structures and the use of different algorithms
- Laws surrounding the use and ethical issues that can arise from the use of computers
- What is meant by computational thinking
- How computers are used to solve problems and programs can be written to solve them
- The use of algorithms to describe problems and standard algorithms

### EXAMINATION / ASSESSMENT

The A level is taught as 3 modules.

**1. Computer systems:** an externally marked paper worth 40% with a 2hr 30 mins exam.

**2. Algorithms and programming:** an externally marked paper worth 40% with a 2hr 30 mins exam.

**3. Programming project:** internally assessed, externally moderated project worth 20%

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# Drama & Theatre Studies

## Course Summary

Ursuline SIXTH FORM WIMBLEDON

Belong & Succeed

### WHY SHOULD I STUDY THIS COURSE?

This is an academic subject, recognised by the universities, designed to attract students with an interest in the theatre, TV and theatre production.

The course covers theatrical practitioners, past and present, theatre history and the study of set plays, and the development of a critical analytical approach towards contemporary theatre.

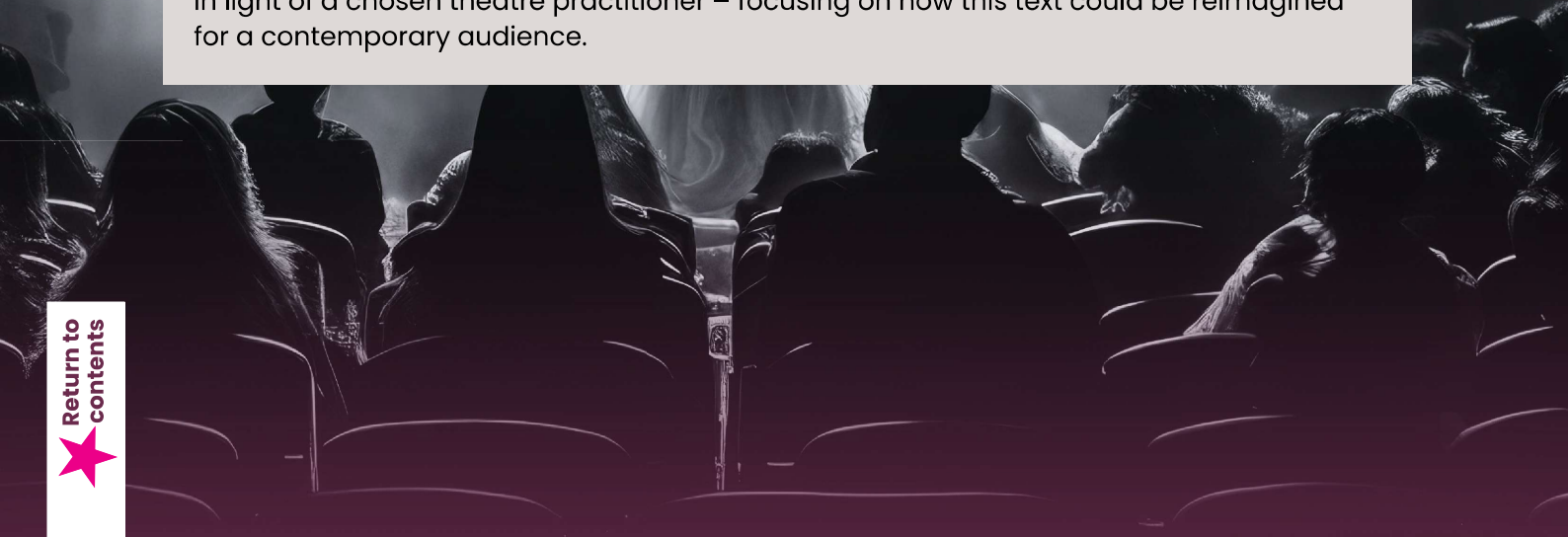
### COURSE FUNDAMENTALS

- Students will be prepared to be actively engaged in theatre performance work.
- The course is delivered through a practical and analytical approach to theatre.

### EXAMINATION / ASSESSMENT

**Component 1 – Coursework:** Devising a live theatre performance (40% of the qualification, 80 marks). There are two parts to the assessment: a typed or recorded/verbal portfolio or a combination of both and the performance.
**Component 2 – Coursework:** Text in Performance (20% of the qualification, 60 marks). A group performance realisation of one key extract from a performance text and a monologue or duologue performance from one key extract from a different performance text. Externally assessed by a visiting examiner.
**Component 3 – Written Examination:** Theatre Makers in Practice (2 hours 30 minutes, 40% of the qualification, 80 marks).

**Section A:** Evaluating a live theatre evaluation.
**Section B:** As a class, practically explore a complete performance text, focusing on how this can be realised for performance. Students answer two extended response questions based on an unseen extract from the performance text they have studied.
**Section C:** Practical exploration and interpretation of another complete performance text, in light of a chosen theatre practitioner – focusing on how this text could be reimagined for a contemporary audience.



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# Economics

## Course Summary

Ursuline SIXTH FORM WIMBLEDON

Belong & Succeed

### WHY SHOULD I STUDY THIS COURSE?

The course aims to give an insight into key issues in the news affecting everyday life. Our goal is to allow you to understand the forces driving things like the price of oil, exchange rates and the level of unemployment in an economy.

The subject is split into two main sections; microeconomics and macroeconomics. Whereas macro looks at the big issues affecting the economy as a whole, micro looks at a smaller scale. In the first year of the course you will study markets, market failure and the UK economy whilst in the second year of the course you will study business behaviour, the labour market and global economics.

### COURSE FUNDAMENTALS

- Government debt
- Unemployment
- Exchange rates
- Prices: why do they always seem to rise?
- Business: why and how do firms compete?

### EXAMINATION / ASSESSMENT

There are three, two hour written examinations at the end of the A Level course.

**Paper 1** will focus on markets and business behaviour (35%).

**Paper 2** will focus on the national and global economy (35%).

**Paper 3** will focus on microeconomics and macroeconomics (30%).

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# English Language

## Course Summary

Ursuline SIXTH FORM WIMBLEDON

Belong & Succeed

### WHY SHOULD I STUDY THIS COURSE?

This course covers language variation: how 21st century language varies according to identity and use, and how language has changed over time from 1550 to the present day.

Students study how children between the ages of 0 and 8 learn to speak and write. Later in the course they submit a creative writing folder choosing between fiction or journalism genres, together with a reflective commentary. Finally they select a specialist language topic such as English dialects or language and power, and conduct their own linguistic investigation in preparation for examination.

### COURSE FUNDAMENTALS

- Extend GCSE skills, comparing how writers convey identity considering different genres, purposes and audiences.
- Learn specific linguistic terminology to identify, label, sort and analyse language.
- Link to History, Geography and foreign languages by understanding how English has developed over time.
- Cross-over with Psychology and Sociology in the research, data gathering and experimental nature of a real language investigation, as well as the psycho-social reasons for using specific types of language.
- Develop their own creative writing.

### EXAMINATION / ASSESSMENT

Three examinations on:

**Language Variation:** 2 hour 15 mins examination (35%);

**Child Language:** 1 hour (20%); Investigating Language (pre-release) 1 hour 45 mins (25%).

A **'Crafting Language' coursework** folder is also submitted consisting of two pieces of original writing plus an analytical, reflective commentary (20%).

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# English Literature

## Course Summary

Ursuline SIXTH FORM WIMBLEDON

Belong & Succeed

### WHY SHOULD I STUDY THIS COURSE?

The course aims to develop and improve students' ability to understand and analyse literature across all three main forms: prose, poetry and drama.

For success in English Literature, students must combine a thorough knowledge of the set texts with the ability to present a reasoned and coherent line of thought.

The ability to compare different writers' styles and approaches is a key objective along with and enthusiasm for literature and wide reading.

### COURSE FUNDAMENTALS

- Students enhance their skills on close prose analysis.
- Students develop a consideration of how language and structure are manipulated for effect.
- Students gain an insight into the role of context in shaping great literature.
- Students compare texts across genres and time periods.

### EXAMINATION / ASSESSMENT

The course is taught in modules and is assessed through a mixture of non-examined Assessments (coursework) and Examined Assessments.

**Component 1:** Shakespeare, Drama and Poetry, Pre-1900. (40% of A Level). Examination 2 hours 30 mins.

**Component 2:** Comparative and contextual study. (40% of A Level) Examination 2 hours 30 mins.

**Component 3:** Non-examined Assessment on Literature, Post-1900. (20%).

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A LEVEL | EDUQAS/WJEC

# Film Studies

## Course Summary

Ursuline SIXTH FORM WIMBLEDON

Belong & Succeed

### WHY SHOULD I STUDY THIS COURSE?

A level Film Studies introduces learners to a wide variety of films in order to broaden their knowledge and understanding of film and the range of responses films can generate.

You will study mainstream and independent American and British films from the past and the present as well as more recent global films, both non English language and English language. The historical range of film represented in those films is extended by the study of silent film and significant film movements (such as European avant-garde and new wave cinemas in Europe and Asia) so that learners can gain a sense of the development of film from its early years to its still emerging digital future.

Studies in documentary, experimental and short films add to the breadth of the learning experience. Production work is a crucial part of this specification and is integral to learners' study of film. Studying a diverse range of films from several different contexts is designed to give learners the opportunity to apply their knowledge and understanding of how films are constructed to their own filmmaking and screenwriting.

This is intended to enable learners to create high quality film and screenplay work as well as provide an informed filmmaker's perspective on their own study of film.

### COURSE FUNDAMENTALS

A level Film Studies aims to enable learners to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of:

- A diverse range of film, including documentary, film from the silent era
- Experimental film and short film
- The significance of film and film practice in national, global and historical contexts
- Film and its key contexts (including social, cultural, political, historical and technological contexts)
- How films generate meanings and responses
- Film as an aesthetic medium
- The different ways in which spectators respond to film.

It also aims to enable learners to: apply critical approaches to film and apply knowledge and understanding of film through either filmmaking or screenwriting.

### EXAMINATION / ASSESSMENT

The course is assessed as follows:

**Component 1:** American and British Film, 2.5hr exam (35%)
**Component 2:** Varieties of film, 2.5hr exam (35%)
**Component 3:** Production (short film or screenplay) coursework (30%)

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# Geography

## Course Summary

Ursuline SIXTH FORM WIMBLEDON

Belong & Succeed

### WHY SHOULD I STUDY THIS COURSE?

Geography is often regarded as a bridge between the arts and the sciences; it aims to develop an understanding of the variable nature of the earth's physical landscape and the complex nature of our own relationships and interactions with the environment.

The course aims to investigate both human and physical geography in greater depth. Topics include: Water and Carbon Cycles, Coastal Systems, Hazards, Global Systems and Governance, Changing Places and Population.

Students will be engaged through the most up to date topical material as well as by attending field trips to carry out and learn techniques of geographical investigations.

### COURSE FUNDAMENTALS

- Students develop an enjoyment of both Human and Physical Geography
- Students gain an interest in the world around them and an appreciation of our planet
- Students further develop their high level of written communication skills
- Students become proficient in analysing and interpreting graphical data

### EXAMINATION / ASSESSMENT

**Paper 1: Physical –** 2.5 hour exam: 120 marks. 40% of A Level
- **Section a)** Water and Carbon Cycles
- **Section b)** Coastal Systems and landscapes
- **Section c)** Hazards
- **Field trip:** Autumn term of Year 13

**Paper 2: Human –** 2.5 hour exam: 120 marks. 40% of A Level
- **Section a)** Global systems and global governance
- **Section b)** Changing places
- **Section c)** Contemporary urban environments PAPER 3 (no exam)

**Geography Fieldwork investigation:** 60 marks. 20% of A Level (3 000 – 4 000 words)

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# History

## Course Summary

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### WHY SHOULD I STUDY THIS COURSE?

Students will undertake breadth and depth studies to develop an understanding of a specific time period as well as the key events and turning points in History.

Students build an extensive knowledge of the topics studied as well as developing skills such as analysis, evaluation and interpretation.

The chosen topics in this course reflect the themes of governance, the struggle for rights, and the long echoes of the past.

### COURSE FUNDAMENTALS

Students study:

- The Early Tudors in England (1485-1558)
- Democracy and Dictatorship in Germany (1919-1963)
- The Middle East (1908-2011)
- The Development of Rights for Women in Great Britain (1865-c.1918) or the development of Civil Rights in the USA (1865-1992) is the core focus of the coursework assignment.

### EXAMINATION / ASSESSMENT

**There are four units in the A Level:** Units 1 and 2 are studied in Year 12 and Units 3 and 4 are studied in Year 13.

**Unit 1 – British period study:** (25%). Examination: 1 hour 30 mins (Early Tudors).

**Unit 2 – Non-British period study:** (15%). Examination: 1 hour (Democracy and Dictatorship in Germany).

**Unit 3 – Thematic study on historical interpretations:** (40%). Examination: 2 hours 30 mins.

**Unit 4 – Coursework assignment:** 3500-4000 word essay (20%). Development of Rights for Women or Development of Civil Rights.

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# Mathematics

## Course Summary

Ursuline SIXTH FORM WIMBLEDON

Belong & Succeed

## WHY SHOULD I STUDY THIS COURSE?

Mathematics is a valuable A Level qualification which has become increasing desirable in recent years as a support subject in areas such as Science, Geography, Economics and Business Studies.

The whole of the linear course content is compulsory without any options for choice. Two-thirds of the course content is pure mathematics and one-third content is applied mathematics.

The applied mathematics content consists of half statistics and half mechanics. The pure mathematics content includes algebra and functions, coordinate geometry, trigonometry, calculus, vectors and proofs. The statistics content includes statistical sampling, data presentation and interpretation, probability, statistical distributions and statistical hypothesis testing. The mechanics content includes kinematics, forces and Newton's laws and moments.

## COURSE FUNDAMENTALS

- A strong skill set of algebraic manipulation is essential to the development of skills from GCSE to A Level
- Applied content makes use of mathematical techniques within contextualised problem solving situations.
- Mechanics includes the study of motion, force, momentum and kinematics
- Statistics includes the study of probability, statistical diagrams, correlation and measures of average. The Edexcel pre-released large data set (LDS) containing real data is used during the course to enable students to become familiar with it as some of the exam questions are based on the LDS.
- Use of ICT is an integral part of the course, particularly in the statistics content
- Real-life modelling is an integral part of the course

## EXAMINATION / ASSESSMENT

A-Level Mathematics is examined in three papers of equal weighting at the end of Year 13. A calculator is allowed in all three exam papers.

**Paper 1:** 2 hours – 100 marks – Pure mathematics content assessed at A level standard
**Paper 2:** 2 hours – 100 marks – Remaining pure mathematics content
**Paper 3:** 2 hours –100 marks – statistics and mechanics content from both years split into two sections. Section A: Statistics (50 marks); Section B: Mechanics (50 marks)

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# Further Mathematics

## Course Summary

### WHY SHOULD I STUDY THIS COURSE?

This course is ideal for students who have a passion in Mathematics and who thrive on challenge.

Students develop the skills to explore new and more sophisticated mathematical concepts beyond A Level Mathematics.

### COURSE FUNDAMENTALS

- The course is designed so that students aim for an A Level in Mathematics in their first year and then they move on to begin the Further Maths modules which build on prior knowledge and understanding.
- Students should already have a natural aptitude for solving problems and a great enjoyment of the subject Problem solving is a key component of the course.

### EXAMINATION / ASSESSMENT

All papers 1hr 30 mins

**Paper 1:** Core Pure Maths 1

**Paper 2:** Core Pure Maths 2

**Paper 3:** Further Statistics

**Paper 4:** Further Mechanics

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A LEVEL | AQA

# Modern Languages

## Course Summary

Ursuline SIXTH FORM WIMBLEDON

Belong & Succeed

### WHY SHOULD I STUDY THIS COURSE?

Modern Languages are highly regarded by universities and studying a language at A Level offers the opportunity to not only continue with languages in further education, but also to integrate it as a part of many degrees, adding an additional life skill to your CV.

The emphasis in new syllabuses is on contemporary issues, current affairs and communication skills, the ability to discuss and debate contemporary and often controversial society issues in the target language.

The course provides many opportunities to attend conferences and cultural events throughout the year.

### COURSE FUNDAMENTALS

- A seven-week module focusing on consolidating and deepening students' knowledge and understanding of the grammar.
- Practice and experience of the language as well as the culture are gained through the weekly use of authentic topical material, e.g. traditional /current songs, newspaper headlines, magazine articles, radio and TV programmes, now accessible via the internet. Students also have the opportunity and are encouraged to borrow DVDs and watch films on a regular basis.
- Students will study topics related to aspects of, culture, politics and literature of the countries where the language is spoken and students are expected to extend their studies at home using various forms of media; homework, prep work and independent learning sessions are all used to help the students acquire key further education study skills as well as to ensure that they experience and enjoy the language outside the classroom.
- In teaching and learning the target language predominates once the grammar module has been done, and answers in English are kept to a minimum so students feel fully immersed. Some of the opportunities to attend conferences and cultural events include: students organising events / screening of films and seminar at BFI and the target language institutes (French & Cervantes) / seminars and debates

### EXAMINATION / ASSESSMENT

The assessment consists of three papers.

Paper 1 is the Listening, Reading and Writing assessment (2h30mins and 50% of the A-Level) ; Paper 2 is the Writing assessment (2 hours and 20% of A-Level) and Paper 3 is the Speaking assessment (21-23 minutes, including 5 minutes preparation time and 30% of the A-Level).

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A LEVEL | PEARSON EDEXCEL

# Music

## Course Summary

### WHY SHOULD I STUDY THIS COURSE?

This course continues the format of study from the GCSE Music course and, as such, is divided between performing music, composing music and appraising a wide range of pieces.

Students will learn to perform, compose and appreciate different types of music, developing critical and creative thinking, cultural, aesthetic and emotional awareness, and the ability to make music individually and as part of a group.

All styles of music can be submitted for the performing and composing elements. Students will need to be able to follow conventional notation and be able to use notation software.

### COURSE FUNDAMENTALS

- Performing music (30%)
- Composing music (30%)
- Appraising music (40%)

### EXAMINATION / ASSESSMENT

The student will prepare a recital at least eight minutes in length in which they will perform one or more pieces. They can sing or play and this can be undertaken as a soloist or in an ensemble. The style of music performed is chosen by the candidate.

The composing element requires the submission of two compositions at least one of which has to be based on a brief set by Edexcel. It is likely that all candidates would use conventional notation and notation software for this although, depending on the style of music being composed and / or the given brief, it may be possible to use alternative scores. One composition has to be at least four minutes long and the other at least one minute long. In total both pieces must have a duration of at least six minutes.

For the appraisal assessment students will study music from a range of styles and traditions including vocal music, instrumental music, music for film, popular music and jazz, fusions and new directions.

There are three set works and a wide range of other related music to study for each area.

There is a final two hour written examination in which students' knowledge and understanding is tested through a mixture of listening questions and written responses.

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A LEVEL | PEARSON EDEXCEL

# Photography

## Course Summary

### WHY SHOULD I STUDY THIS COURSE?

The Photography course provides students with opportunities to develop personal responses to ideas, observations, experiences, environments and cultures in practical, critical and contextual forms. Students are introduced to a variety of experiences employing a range of appropriate media, processes and techniques and, as the course progresses, build upon the knowledge, understanding and skills gained in Year 12 with greater depth of study in Year 13.

### COURSE FUNDAMENTALS

- Students are given opportunity to explore elements of visual language, line, form, colour, pattern and texture in the context of Photography.
- Students develop an ability to respond to an issue, theme, concept or idea or work to a brief or answer a need in Photography.
- Students gain an appreciation of viewpoint, composition, depth of field and movement as well as time-based photographic techniques.
- Students develop an understanding of the appropriate use of the camera, film, lenses, filters and lighting for work and techniques related to the developing and printing of photographic images, where appropriate, presentation and layout. This A level consists of 2 components.
- Component 1 – Personal Portfolio is worth 60% of the overall grade. The Externally Set assignment is worth 40% of the overall grade

### EXAMINATION / ASSESSMENT

This A level consists of 2 components.

**Component 1:** The Personal Portfolio comprises a portfolio of development work and outcomes based on themes and ideas developed from personal starting points. Students' skills are developed throughout Year 12 and lead to a personal study in which pupils develop their contextual research and understanding in a minimum 1000 word essay before developing practical work in response.

**Component 2:** The Externally Set Assignment requires pupils to respond to an externally set theme with suggested starting points. It incorporates two major elements: preparatory studies and a 15–hour period of sustained focus. The externally set assignment title is released in February culminating in the 15-hour exam (sustained focus) in May. Students' work is both internally assessed throughout the two years, and externally assessed at the end of the Year 13.

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A LEVEL | OCR

# Physical Education

## Course Summary

### WHY SHOULD I STUDY THIS COURSE?

Physical Education examines both the practical aspects of Physical Education but also the theoretical aspects such as Anatomy and Physiology, Biomechanics, Acquiring Movement Skills, Sports Psychology and Socio-cultural/Contemporary Issues.

Students have the chance to coach or perform in a practical area of Physical Education.

### COURSE FUNDAMENTALS

- **Paper 1** (90 marks – 30% of total A level – 2 hour exam) on applied anatomy & physiology, exercise physiology and biomechanics.
- **Paper 2** (60 marks – 20% of total A level – 1 hour exam) on skill acquisition and sports psychology.
- **Paper 3** (60 marks – 20% of total A level – 1 hour exam) on Sport and society & contemporary issues in physical activity and sport.
- Students evaluate and analyse performance in their chosen sport. They are only assessed in one sporting activity over the 2 years which is 30% of the total grade.

### EXAMINATION / ASSESSMENT

3 written exams:

**Physiological factors affecting performance** – 90 marks 2-hour written paper

**Psychological factors affecting performance** – 60 marks 1-hour written paper

**Socio-cultural issues** – 60 marks 1 hour written paper

**Practical exam** – 60 marks practical performance & Analysis of Performance.

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A LEVEL | OCR

# Physics

## Course Summary

Ursuline SIXTH FORM WIMBLEDON

Belong & Succeed

### WHY SHOULD I STUDY THIS COURSE?

Physics is an excellent subject that leads to many further education pathways including Medical Physics, Radiography, Architecture, Actuary, Optician, Engineering and even Stockbroking.

The OCR Physics specification incorporates many aspects of Physics from our everyday lives into its course. This engaging and inspiring GCE Physics specification houses both classical and modern day physics concepts under the one course of study.

The students look at ideas that defined Physics through the ages, from Newtonian ideas of projectile motion to modern day advances such as particle physics, the development of medical physics and the production of the atomic bomb.

### COURSE FUNDAMENTALS

The course is split into 6 modules:

- **Module 1:** Development of practical skills in physics
- **Module 2:** Foundations of physics
- **Module 3:** Forces and motion
- **Module 4:** Electrons, waves and photons
- **Module 5:** Newtonian world and astrophysics
- **Module 6:** Particles and medical physics

### EXAMINATION / ASSESSMENT

There are 3 written assessments that are taken at the end of Y13.

**Paper 1:** Modelling Physics assesses content from modules 1, 2, 3 and 5. (2hr 15)

**Paper 2:** Exploring Physics assesses content from modules 1, 2, 4 and 6. (2hr 15)

**Paper 3:** Unified Physics assesses content from all modules. (1hr 30)

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A LEVEL | PEARSON EDEXCEL

# Politics

## Course Summary

Ursuline SIXTH FORM WIMBLEDON

Belong & Succeed

## WHY SHOULD I STUDY THIS COURSE?

Students will gain knowledge and an informed understanding of contemporary political structures and issues in their historical context, both within the United Kingdom and globally. The changing nature of politics and the relationships between political ideas, institutions and processes will also be studied. Students will develop the ability to critically analyse, interpret and evaluate political information to form arguments and make judgements

## COURSE FUNDAMENTALS

- **Unit 1: Political Participation & Core Political Ideas in the UK.** Students will study: Democracy and participation, political parties, electoral systems, voting behaviour and the media and Conservatism, liberalism, socialism.
- **Unit 2: UK Government and Non-Core Political Ideas.** Students will study: The constitution, Parliament, Prime Minister and executive, relationships between the branches and the political idea of Feminism.
- **Unit 3: American Politics.** Students will study: The US constitution and federalism, US congress, US presidency, US supreme court and civil rights, democracy and participation, comparative theories.

- The aims and objectives of this qualification are to enable students to:
  - Develop knowledge and an informed understanding of contemporary political structures and issues in their historical context, both within the United Kingdom (UK) and globally
  - Develop a critical awareness of the changing nature of politics and the relationships between political ideas, institutions and processes
  - Develop knowledge and an informed understanding of the influences and interests which have an impact on decisions in government and politics
  - Develop knowledge and an informed understanding of the rights and responsibilities of individuals and groups
  - Develop the ability to critically analyse, interpret and evaluate political information to form arguments and make judgements
  - Develop an interest in, and engagement with, contemporary politics.

## EXAMINATION / ASSESSMENT

There are 3 externally assessed examinations, all sat at the end of Year 13.
Units 1 and 2 are studied in Year 12 and Unit 3 is studied in Year 13.

**Unit 1:** UK Politics (33.3%) Examination: 2 hours
**Unit 2:** UK Government (33.3%) Examination: 2 hours
**Unit 3:** Comparative Politics (33.3%) Examination: 2 hours

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A LEVEL | AQA

# Psychology

## Course Summary

Ursuline SIXTH FORM WIMBLEDON

Belong & Succeed

## WHY SHOULD I STUDY THIS COURSE?

The qualification offers an engaging and effective introduction to the main Psychological theories and research.

Students will learn the fundamentals of the subject and develop skills valued by Higher Education and employers, including critical analysis, independent thinking and research.

Students will develop the evaluation, application, and research skills so our psychology students feel empowered to use their talents and abilities to improve our ever-changing social world.

## COURSE FUNDAMENTALS

**Year 1:**

- Social Influence
- Memory
- Attachment
- Approaches in Psychology
- Clinical Psychology
- Research Methods

**Year 2:**

- Biopsychology
- Issues and Debates in Psychology
- Option 1 Cognition and development
- Option 2 Schizophrenia
- Option 3 Forensic Psychology

## EXAMINATION / ASSESSMENT

The A Level consists of modules, which are incorporated into three 2-hour examinations.

**Paper 1:** 2 hour exam containing multiple choice, short answer and extended writing covering: Social Influence, Memory, Attachment, and Clinical Psychology.

**Paper 2:** 2 hour exam containng multiple choice, short answer and extended writing covering: Approaches in Psychology, Biopsychology, Research Methods.

**Paper 3:** 2 hour exam containing multiple choice, short answer and extended writing covering Issues and Debates; and Option 1 (Cognition and development), Option 2 (Schizophrenia) and Option 3 (Forensic Psychology)

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A LEVEL | OCR

# Religious Studies

## Course Summary

Ursuline SIXTH FORM WIMBLEDON

Belong & Succeed

### WHY SHOULD I STUDY THIS COURSE?

The Religious Studies A level course gives you the opportunity to study some of the fundamental questions which people have always asked:

- Why are we here?
- How should we behave?
- What happens to us when we die?
- How do religious believers explain and explore their beliefs?

### COURSE FUNDAMENTALS

- Religious Studies involves some major academic disciplines such as Theology, Moral Philosophy and Philosophy of Religion. Consequently you will study some of the following themes:
  - **Theology** – the nature of God; Christology; Revelation and debates about interpreting the bible; some analysis of biblical texts; religious belief in contemporary pluralist and secular society; religion and Feminist debates; exploring the writing of key scholars.
  - **Moral Philosophy** – the major ethical theories, such as Utilitarianism, Kantian ethics; ethical theories from religious perspective, such as Natural Law and Situation Ethics; application of ethical theories to issues in Medical Ethics, Sexual Ethics and Business Ethics; what do we mean by Free Will, Conscience, Right, Wrong.
  - **Philosophy of Religion** – possible arguments for/against the existence of God; the 'problem of suffering'; analysis of Religious Experience and Miracles; the challenge to religious belief of science and sociology; analysis of religious language.

### EXAMINATION / ASSESSMENT

The course is assessed externally at the end of Year 13. Exams will be a set of three 2-hour exams.

- **AO1: Knowledge & Understanding:** Weighting 40% Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of religion and belief.
- **AO2: Analysis, Evaluation & Application:** Weighting 60% Analyse and evaluate aspects of, and approaches to, religion and belief, including their significance, influence and study.

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A LEVEL | AQA

# Sociology

## Course Summary

Ursuline SIXTH FORM WIMBLEDON

Belong & Succeed

## WHY SHOULD I STUDY THIS COURSE?

This qualification offers an engaging and effective introduction to Sociology. Students will learn the fundamentals of the subject and develop skills valued by higher education (HE) and employers, including critical analysis, independent thinking and research.
The course will help you:

- To better understand the society in which we live
- To better understand other societies in our age of globalisation
- To become prepared for a wide range of careers in government, education, non-profit organisations and business

## COURSE FUNDAMENTALS

- Students study the role and purpose of education and examine educational achievement by social class, gender and ethnicity.
- Students explore families including patterns of marriage, cohabitation, separation, divorce and family diversity.
- Students gain a view of crime control, prevention, punishment, victims, and the criminal justice system.
- The course examines role of religion and other belief systems both in the UK and globally.

## EXAMINATION / ASSESSMENT

At A Level, there are three 2-hour examinations of equal weighting.

**Paper 1** – Education with Theory and Methods
**Paper 2** – Topics in Sociology (Families & Households and Beliefs in Society
**Paper 3** – Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods

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A LEVEL | AQA

# Extended Project Qualification

## Course Summary

Ursuline SIXTH FORM WIMBLEDON

Belong & Succeed

### WHY SHOULD I STUDY THIS COURSE?

The Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) is equivalent to an AS Level qualification, with the possibility of attaining an A* grade. The EPQ allows each student to embark on a largely self-directed and self-motivated project. Students must choose a topic, plan, research and develop their idea and decide on their finished product. We encourage creativity and curiosity. A project topic may be directly related to a student's main study programme, but should look beyond the specification. Students will learn taught skills such as how to choose a topic and phrase a title; how to select, evaluate and reference research sources; how to structure an argument, as well as project-management skills. A finished EPQ product may take the form of a:

• Research based written report (5,000 words)
• Production* (e.g. charity event, fashion show or sports event etc.)
• An artefact* (e.g. piece of art, a computer game or realised design) *A written report must accompany these options.

### COURSE FUNDAMENTALS

- EPQ is an additional qualification choice, taught in just 2 periods a week; students are expected to do the majority of their project outside lesson times.
- Students may choose to do a project on a topic of their choice.
- The EPQ can link to any subject, future career choices, or hobbies / interests.
- Promotes strong essay writing, investigative, research and management skills.

### EXAMINATION / ASSESSMENT

As well as the finished product, students must also record their project process in their Production Log and give a formal presentation about their project to an audience. All aspects are assessed and grades A*-E awarded by the centre supervisor and coordinator; projects are then moderated by the examination board.

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A LEVEL | OCR (Equivalent to 1 A Level)

# Performing Arts Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate

## Course Summary

### WHY SHOULD I STUDY THIS COURSE?

This is a practical, versatile, highly regarded and extremely fun Performing Arts course. It includes all aspects of theatre (acting, movement, technical production skills like lighting and sound) and industry knowledge. It equips you with a huge range of skills and knowledge that you need in the world of work, whatever you choose to do next. For example, presentation and confidence, body language and expression, how to articulate yourself and how to work within a team to create a project or production.

### COURSE FUNDAMENTALS

- Practical lessons and workshops with industry professionals to learn more about all the career paths in the industry.
- Building a wide repertoire of experience and skills in performance and production (acting, lighting, sound, set design, puppetry/masks, promotional material).
- Fieldwork (trips and visits) to theatres, venues, museums and studio spaces to see the industry in action.
- This course perfectly pairs with other Arts courses for its creativity, or with Business for promotional tools, or with Psychology or Sociology for its focus on the human context.

### EXAMINATION / ASSESSMENT

The course has several units.

**Unit 1** – Promoting yourself and your skills for future employment: a to-camera pitch, a show reel of your skill, and a portfolio application outlining your ideas to meet a performance brief. You can complete this as a performer, designer or producer
**Unit 2** –Applied Theatre in the real world: create a project for a piece of community theatre, learn budgeting skills, health and safety certification, and lead workshop activities.
**Unit 3** – Performance for a brief. Pick two contrasting performance pieces for presentation and write up notes on them.
**Unit 4** – Prepare a production piece of a play for performance to an audience, and learn performance skills from different areas and types of theatre. Visit and watch two productions of the same play.
**Unit 5** – Improvisation skills: Learn how to improvise like a professional, research into this type of theatre and attend workshops for improvisation.

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LEVEL 2 | TRINITY COLLEGE

# English Language GCSE

## Course Summary

Ursuline SIXTH FORM WIMBLEDON

Belong & Succeed

### WHY SHOULD I STUDY THIS COURSE?

The course is for students who have not yet secured a grade 4 at GCSE. The course aims to develop the skills that students learnt in their original two-year GCSE course. All students will be graded on the new grades 9-1.

### COURSE FUNDAMENTALS

- Students develop skills to write with accuracy, variety and control.
- Students gain further understanding of examination techniques, timings and success criteria.
- The course enables students to build language analysis skills.

### EXAMINATION / ASSESSMENT

**Paper 1:** Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing 50% (Externally assessed)
**Paper 2:** Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives 50% (Externally assessed) Non-examination Assessment: Spoken Language 0% (Internally assessed)
**Word count:** 98

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LEVEL 2 | PEARSON EDEXCEL

# Mathematics GCSE

## Course Summary

Ursuline SIXTH FORM WIMBLEDON

Belong & Succeed

### WHY SHOULD I STUDY THIS COURSE?

This course is designed for students who have not attained at least a grade 4 at GCSE. The course aims to develop the skills that students learnt in their original two-year GCSE course covering number, algebra, ratio, proportion and rates of change, geometry and measures, statistics and probability.

### COURSE FUNDAMENTALS

- Students develop stronger numeracy skills in calculating real life applications of number, shape, space and measure.
- Students understanding of algebraic concepts and calculations of probability are developed through problem solving questions.

### EXAMINATION / ASSESSMENT

**Two tiers are available:** Foundation and Higher
**Foundation tier:** Grades 5 to 1
**Higher tier:** Grades 9 to 4

The qualification consists of three equally-weighted written examination papers at either Foundation tier or Higher tier.

Paper 1 is a non-calculator assessment and a calculator is allowed for Paper 2 and Paper 3. Each paper is 90 minutes long. Each paper has 80 marks. The qualification will be graded and certificated on a nine-grade scale from 9 to 1 using the total mark across all papers where 9 is the highest grade.

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