

The Blue Coat School Liverpool

# SIXTH FORM 2026



# Headteachers Welcome

It is with great pride and pleasure that I welcome you to The Blue Coat Sixth Form.

Our Sixth Form represents the pinnacle of academic ambition, personal development and community spirit. As you consider your next steps after GCSEs, I encourage you to explore the exceptional opportunities that await you here. Whether you are continuing your journey with us or joining from another school, you will find a vibrant and inclusive environment where every student is known, supported and challenged to achieve their very best.

At Blue Coat, we believe that education is about more than just qualifications. It is about nurturing character, resilience, and compassion. Our motto, "Non sibi sed omnibus" – "Not for oneself, but for all" – is woven into every aspect of Sixth Form life. From academic excellence and leadership roles to volunteering and enrichment, our students are empowered to grow into confident, capable and socially responsible young adults.

Our outstanding results, expert teaching and dedicated pastoral care speak for themselves. But what truly sets us apart is the strength of our community, a place where students thrive, friendships flourish and futures are forged.

I invite you to discover all that The Blue Coat Sixth Form has to offer. Your future begins here and we are excited to be part of your journey.

Mr K Sexton



# 2025 A-level Results

Name	Total Grades	A* %	A* - A %	A* - B %	A* - C %	A* - D %	A* - E %	A* - U %
Art	5	40	60	100	100	100	100	100
Biology	77	27.3	59.7	83.1	97.4	100	100	100
Economics	34	23.5	58.8	91.2	94.1	97.1	97.1	97.1
Chemistry	98	16.3	56.1	78.6	93.9	100	100	100
Computer Science	25	24	72	96	100	100	100	100
English L and L	5	20	60	100	100	100	100	100
English Literature	11	54.5	81.8	100	100	100	100	100
French	7	57.1	100	100	100	100	100	100
Geography	16	25	87.5	100	100	100	100	100
History	13	23.1	92.3	92.3	100	100	100	100
Politics	11	36.4	81.8	100	100	100	100	100
Latin	8	25	87.5	100	100	100	100	100
Further Maths	31	54.8	87.1	90.3	96.8	96.8	100	100
Maths	136	33.1	60.3	78.7	93.4	97.8	100	100
Music	4	75	100	100	100	100	100	100
Physics	53	20.8	45.3	69.8	86.8	96.2	100	100
Spanish	20	30	75	90	100	100	100	100
Psychology	21	4.8	47.6	81	95.2	95.2	100	100
Summary	577	27.9	63.6	83.9	95.1	98.6	99.8	99.8

# Our enriching curriculum



# Choosing your pathway



At The Blue Coat Sixth Form, we are committed to the highest standards of academic achievement. Our curriculum is designed to challenge, inspire, and prepare students for the demands of higher education and the world beyond. We provide a supportive yet ambitious environment where every student is encouraged to realise their full potential.

## A TAILORED ACADEMIC PATHWAY

Students typically study three or four A Levels, depending on their GCSE results and chosen career pathway. Our wide range of subjects allows students to specialise according to their interests, strengths, and aspirations. Each course is taught by highly experienced teachers who are passionate about their subjects and committed to helping every student achieve excellence.

## BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

Academic learning at Blue Coat goes far beyond the exam syllabus. Through activities such as academic societies, guest lectures, and the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ), students are encouraged to develop intellectual curiosity, independence, and analytical thinking. These opportunities help to cultivate the critical and reflective mindset that universities and employers value.

## SUPPORT AND GUIDANCE

We recognise that each student's learning journey is unique. Individual academic mentoring, regular progress reviews, and tailored intervention ensure that all students receive the support they need to thrive. Our teachers work closely with the Sixth Form leadership team to ensure that every student remains on track, motivated, and confident in their learning.

## A CULTURE OF HIGH ACHIEVEMENT

Year after year, Blue Coat students achieve outstanding results across a broad range of subjects. Many of our A Level students secure the highest grades, reflecting the dedication of both staff and students. This consistent success places The Blue Coat Sixth Form among the leading providers of post-16 education in the region.

Sixth Form Students at the Blue Coat School gain more than good A Level qualifications during their two years of study.

We take great pride in our commitment to provide opportunities for students to develop their life skills, character and talents. Coupled with this, we also provide an environment where students can stretch and challenge themselves outside of the academic forum in preparation for a successful transition to life beyond Blue Coat.

## **Personal Development**

In Year 12, students have one Personal Development lesson a fortnight, increasing to one lesson a week in Year 13.

Lessons are largely discussion-based, supporting students' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. The Personal Development curriculum covers PSHE (personal, social, health and economic education), citizenship, RSE (relationship and sex education), and CIAG (career information, advice and guidance). The CIAG element becomes increasingly important as students move into Year 13 and are supported with researching and applying for post-18 options.

Personal Development lessons are delivered in conjunction with Student Development afternoons; every Monday our students receive a talk from an external speaker, covering a range of topics from applying to university to supporting their mental health. Additional opportunities to be available to our Sixth Form students include the Student Leadership Team, subject prefect opportunities, mock interviews, careers appointments and studying a project of your choice through the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ).

## **Welfare**

The personal welfare of our students is paramount to us at Blue Coat. We have two strong Key Stage Leaders who work in partnership to support both the academic progress and the personal welfare of our students. When aspiring to gain excellent A Level grades, the pressure to succeed can at times be very intense. At Blue Coat we ensure that students are supported on an individual and bespoke basis by subject teachers, form tutors and Key Stage Leaders as the need requires.

# Sixth Form life

The Blue Coat Sixth Form offers a vibrant, ambitious, and caring learning community where every student is encouraged to strive for excellence and personal growth. Here, you will be challenged academically, supported personally, and inspired to make a positive contribution both within our school and beyond.

At Blue Coat, Sixth Form students typically study three or four A Levels, depending on their GCSE results. Alongside academic studies, all students take part in our Personal Development and Careers Programme, engage in Student Development, and complete an Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) – an excellent opportunity to explore an area of personal interest in depth.

We are proud of our BCS 100 Volunteering Programme and our active Senior Prefect Team, which offers leadership opportunities in areas such as Equality, Diversity & Inclusion (EDI), Mentoring, Clubs & Societies, Social Outreach, and the House Leadership Team. These roles provide valuable experiences in organisation, teamwork, and service, as prefects help to run assemblies, charity events, and the Student Council.

Our school motto, “Non sibi sed omnibus” – “Not for oneself, but for all” – lies at the heart of everything we do. It reflects the community spirit that defines our Sixth Form: one rooted in compassion, integrity, and a commitment to making a positive difference.

Over the two years of Sixth Form study, our aim is to help you become an academically accomplished, well-rounded, and socially responsible individual – ready to take your place as a leader in the wider world. The majority of our students progress to their first-choice universities, a testament to their hard work, the expert teaching, and the exceptional pastoral care we provide.

Our Sixth Form Team is always here to support our students:

- Miss Marshall, Head of Sixth Form
- Mrs Salter, Assistant Head of Sixth Form
- Miss Malley, Sixth Form Student Support Mentor

Based in the Sixth Form Centre, the team works closely with students to ensure that every individual thrives academically, personally, and socially during their time at The Blue Coat Sixth Form.



# Opportunities

Life at The Blue Coat Sixth Form extends far beyond the classroom. Our students benefit from a wide range of opportunities designed to develop leadership, independence, confidence, and a lifelong love of learning. We are proud to offer an environment that nurtures ambition and provides every student with the tools to succeed at the highest level.

## ACADEMIC SUCCESS AND UNIVERSITY PROGRESSION

At Blue Coat, our commitment to academic excellence is reflected in our outstanding outcomes. 99% of our students progress to the university of their choice, with a significant number securing places to study Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Science, Engineering, and Computer Science. Each year, a large proportion of our students also achieve offers from Oxford and Cambridge, a testament to their hard work and the exceptional guidance they receive throughout their Sixth Form journey.

## LEADERSHIP AND RESPONSIBILITY

Students are encouraged to develop leadership skills through our House System and Senior Prefect Team. Roles within the prefect team include Social Outreach, Equality, Diversity & Inclusion (EDI), Mentoring, and Clubs & Societies. These positions provide invaluable experience in teamwork, organisation, and public service, helping students build confidence and resilience.

## EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION (EPQ)

All students complete an EPQ, an independent research project that involves extended writing, analysis, and presentation. This qualification develops key university-level skills such as academic writing, research, and critical thinking—attributes that give our students a distinct advantage in higher education.

## TRIPS AND ENRICHMENT

Our students have access to a wide range of educational trips and visits both in the UK and abroad. Recent destinations include New York, Italy, and Paris, providing cultural enrichment and unforgettable experiences that complement classroom learning.

## THE OLD BLUES NETWORK

Students benefit from a lasting connection to our Old Blues Network – a community of former Blue Coat students who provide mentoring, networking, and career insight to support our Sixth Formers as they plan for life beyond school.

## CAREERS AND PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

We provide outstanding careers advice, alongside regular Student Development and Personal Development sessions, ensuring students are well-prepared for university, apprenticeships, or employment.

# Opportunities

## THE BLUE COAT 100 VOLUNTEERING SCHEME

Through our Blue Coat 100 programme, students are encouraged to give back to the community by completing 100 hours of volunteering. This initiative fosters empathy, responsibility, and a strong sense of social purpose.

## SPORT AND WELLBEING

Our exceptional sports facilities and wide range of sporting clubs and competitions promote physical health, teamwork, and school spirit. From competitive sports to recreational fitness, there are opportunities for everyone to get involved and thrive.



At The Blue Coat Sixth Form, we believe in educating the whole person – academically, socially, and morally. The breadth of opportunities available ensures every student leaves us as a confident, capable, and compassionate young adult, ready to make their mark on the world.

# Wellbeing pastoral support

At The Blue Coat Sixth Form, we believe that true success is achieved when academic excellence is balanced with personal, emotional, spiritual, and physical wellbeing. Our approach to pastoral care is centred on the whole student ensuring that every individual feels supported, valued, and equipped to thrive both inside and outside the classroom.

## A DEDICATED SIXTH FORM TEAM

Our experienced Sixth Form team provides exceptional care, guidance, and support throughout your journey at Blue Coat. The team includes:

Miss Jacqueline Marshall, Head of Sixth Form

Mrs Sara Salter, Assistant Head of Sixth Form

Miss Lynn Malley, Sixth Form Student Support Mentor

Together, they oversee all aspects of Sixth Form life, ensuring students are supported academically, emotionally, and personally.

## FORM TUTORS AND DAILY SUPPORT

Each year group has a dedicated team of six Form Tutors, all of whom are highly experienced in supporting the development of Sixth Form students.

The Form Tutors play a vital role in providing daily contact, encouragement, and pastoral guidance.

Tutor sessions include a structured programme focusing on life skills, next steps, careers information, advice and guidance (CIAG), as well as personal support and intervention where needed.

## STRONG PASTORAL NETWORK

Our wider pastoral network is a key strength of The Blue Coat community. We work closely with a range of professionals to ensure that every student receives the right level of support.

Mrs Edwards, our SENDCO, oversees the provision for students with additional learning needs, ensuring inclusive access to all aspects of Sixth Form life.

Natasha and Laura provide specialist mental health and counselling support, offering a safe and confidential space for students to talk and seek help.

We also collaborate with external agencies such as Young Carers, CAMHS, and YPAS to ensure that all students receive comprehensive care and guidance tailored to their individual circumstances.

# Wellbeing pastoral support

## A Holistic Approach to Wellbeing

We believe that personal, emotional, spiritual, and physical wellbeing are the foundations of success. Our pastoral programme encourages students to develop resilience, self-awareness, and confidence, enabling them to face challenges with positivity and purpose. Through enrichment activities, mentoring, and wellbeing sessions, students are supported to maintain a healthy balance between academic achievement and personal growth.

At The Blue Coat Sixth Form, we are deeply committed to creating a nurturing environment where every student feels known, cared for, and inspired to reach their full potential.

Our ethos “Non sibi sed omnibus” (“Not for oneself, but for all”) guides our community to look after one another, ensuring that every individual leaves The Blue Coat School not only well-educated, but also well-prepared for life.



# Community

At The Blue Coat Sixth Form, we take great pride in being a community built on compassion, service, and shared purpose. Our school motto, "Non sibi sed omnibus" – "Not for oneself, but for all" – is more than just words; it is a guiding principle that shapes every aspect of Sixth Form life.

We encourage our students to look beyond themselves and to play an active role in both our school and the wider community. Through service, leadership, and outreach, our students develop empathy, social responsibility, and a genuine desire to make a difference in the world around them.

## SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY

Our Sixth Form works closely to support the school community, local community, and a wide range of charities. Students are actively involved in organising fundraising events, coordinating awareness campaigns, and volunteering their time to meaningful causes. From local charity initiatives to national appeals, our students embody the Blue Coat spirit of generosity and kindness

## THE BCS 100 VOLUNTEERING PROGRAMME

A key part of Sixth Form life is the BCS 100 Volunteering Programme, which celebrates the incredible number of hours our students dedicate to helping others both inside and outside of school. Whether mentoring younger pupils, assisting at local food banks, or volunteering with charities, students who complete 100 hours of service are recognised for their exceptional commitment to community life.

## CHARITY AND OUTREACH

Our students take part in a variety of charitable and outreach projects, including visits to local care homes, partnership work with nearby primary schools, and community engagement events. These experiences strengthen the bond between Blue Coat and the wider Liverpool community, fostering intergenerational connection, mutual respect, and understanding.

## CELEBRATING DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

At Blue Coat, we are proud of our diverse and inclusive community. Our students take an active role in organising Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) events, including celebrations of Eid, Diwali, and other cultural festivals. These events help to promote understanding, respect, and appreciation of the many backgrounds, faiths, and cultures that make our school so special.



## A CULTURE OF GIVING BACK

Community growth and support are at the heart of our ethos. Our students understand that success is not just about personal achievement, but also about contributing positively to the lives of others. Whether through volunteering, leadership, or everyday acts of kindness, Blue Coat Sixth Formers leave a lasting impact wherever they go. Through their dedication, compassion, and leadership, our students truly live out the spirit of "Not for oneself, but for all."

# Leadership

Leadership is at the heart of The Blue Coat Sixth Form experience. We believe that every student has the potential to lead through their actions, their influence, and their service to others. Our extensive range of leadership opportunities helps students to develop confidence, communication, and responsibility, preparing them for success in education, employment, and life.

Students can take on leadership roles through our House System and Senior Prefect Team, which includes positions in Social Outreach, Equality, Diversity & Inclusion (EDI), Mentoring, and Clubs & Societies. House Leaders play a key role in organising assemblies, charity events, and whole-school initiatives, while prefects act as role models and ambassadors for the school community. These experiences nurture essential skills in teamwork, organisation, and empathy – qualities that are vital for both personal development and future leadership.

Through these opportunities, students learn that leadership is not only about holding a title, but about making a positive difference. Whether representing the school, mentoring younger pupils, or contributing to community projects, Blue Coat Sixth Formers lead with integrity, kindness, and a sense of purpose that reflects our school ethos:

“Not for oneself, but for all.”



# Life after Blue Coat

Our goal at The Blue Coat Sixth Form is not only to prepare students for their A Levels but to equip them for life after school. Whether pursuing higher education, apprenticeships, or employment, our students leave us as confident, capable, and compassionate young adults ready to make a positive impact on the world.

## PROGRESSION TO UNIVERSITY AND BEYOND

Each year, 99% of our students progress to the university of their choice, with a high percentage choosing to study courses such as Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Science, Engineering, and Computer Science. We are particularly proud of the large number of students who secure places at Oxford and Cambridge, reflecting their exceptional dedication and the expert support provided throughout their studies.

## OUTSTANDING CAREERS GUIDANCE

Our Careers and Guidance Programme offers individualised support from the moment students join the Sixth Form. Through workshops, one-to-one interviews, UCAS preparation, and careers fairs, students receive detailed advice on subject choices, university applications, apprenticeships, and employment opportunities.

## THE OLD BLUES NETWORK

Students also benefit from connections with our Old Blues Network – a thriving community of alumni who provide mentoring, networking, and insight into a wide range of professions. This valuable link offers real-world perspectives and inspiration as students plan their future pathways.

## PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE

Through our Student Development and Personal Development programmes, we focus on key skills that prepare students for adult life: leadership, communication, organisation, and resilience. From managing finances to understanding global issues, these sessions ensure that Blue Coat students are equipped to navigate the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.

## A LAUNCHPAD FOR SUCCESS

The success of our alumni across universities, industries, and professions is a testament to the strength of our Sixth Form education. Every year, our students take the next step in their journeys with confidence, knowing they have the knowledge, skills, and values to succeed in whatever path they choose.

# Your Future

## Your Future Begins at The Blue Coat Sixth Form

Choosing where to study after GCSEs is one of the most important decisions you will make and at The Blue Coat Sixth Form, we are committed to helping you make those next steps with confidence, purpose, and pride.

Our Sixth Form is a place where ambition meets opportunity; where academic excellence is matched by exceptional care and a deep sense of community. Here, students are supported to achieve their very best while developing the character, resilience, and compassion needed to thrive in life beyond school.

Every element of Sixth Form life, from our high-quality teaching and personal development programmes to our leadership opportunities, volunteering schemes, and pastoral support, is designed to shape well-rounded individuals who live out our school motto, "Non sibi sed omnibus" — "Not for oneself, but for all."

At Blue Coat, you will find:

- A welcoming and inclusive community built on mutual respect and shared values.
- Inspiring teachers who challenge, support, and celebrate your progress.
- Exceptional results that open doors to world-class universities and exciting careers.
- Countless opportunities to lead, serve, and make a difference.
- A Sixth Form experience that nurtures both intellect and character.

We are proud of our reputation for excellence and the success of our students, but even more so, we are proud of the kind of people they become: curious thinkers, compassionate leaders, and active citizens who go on to shape the future with integrity and purpose.

Your journey with us will be one of discovery, challenge, and growth. You will be encouraged to aim high, to believe in yourself, and to make a positive impact, both within our school and in the wider world.

At The Blue Coat Sixth Form, your future truly begins here.

## THE COURSE

A Level Art consists of two components, the Personal Investigation (60% of the overall marks), and the Externally Set Task (40%). The course begins with a series of workshops, focused around specific movements from Art history, which feed into skills and knowledge-based workshops. These are designed to not only develop confidence and technical skills but also to appreciate the history of Art and how it has evolved and changed, reflecting the context from which it was produced.

During the Spring term the Personal Investigation will be started, where students begin to work with more independence, either choosing one of the themes explored during the workshops or perhaps developing their own choice of subject matter. The Personal Investigation is worked upon until the January of Year 13 when the Externally Set Task is begun.

### Component 1: Personal Investigation

This is the coursework element of the A Level. It is to be based around themes developed from personal starting points. Students will be expected to produce a portfolio of practical work, including preparatory studies and more resolved final outcomes. The Portfolio must also be accompanied by an extended written task of no less than one thousand words. This unit is progressively independent and self-directed, so a high level of self-discipline and self-motivation is required.

### Component 2: Externally Set Assignment

The assignments are set by the exam board and are again thematic in nature. Students select an assignment and then spend around 8 weeks researching and developing their response. Teacher tutorials are provided for support but the requirement for the student to work and explore independently is fundamental to success. The actual final response is produced under supervised conditions and you are given 15 hours to produce this, usually over 3 days in school.



### ANY QUESTIONS?

Please contact Mr Cain, the Subject Co-ordinator, and he will be happy to advise you further.

# Subjects: Biology

## THE COURSE

The qualification is linear so that the students will sit all of their A-level examinations in the summer of Year 13. In the information below, Year 1 refers to Year 12 and Year 2 refers to Year 13.

## PRACTICAL WORK

There is no internal assessment that leads to marks which contribute towards the A-level grade. In other words, the controlled assessment unit or ISA at A Level has disappeared.

Practical work will be assessed in the written papers. 15% of the total A level marks will be awarded for practical knowledge and understanding. A separate "endorsement" of practical work will be assessed by teachers. This will not be graded (simply a pass or fail mark). If students pass it will be reported on their certificate, otherwise it will not be reported.

Students must carry out a minimum of 12 set practical activities across the two year A level. At the Blue Coat, students will have more opportunities to learn and use practical skills to link theory with practice, deepening their knowledge and understanding.

You can find out more about the practical based questions by viewing the specimen examination questions and mark schemes at: [aqa.org.uk/biology-guide](http://aqa.org.uk/biology-guide).

## TEACHING & LEARNING METHODS

A mixture of note taking, practical work and problem solving will be used. All the laboratories and teaching rooms have interactive whiteboards (IWB). Consequently, all teachers use the IWB on a regular basis and complement this with student centred activities. Progress tests are a regular feature as well as homework assignments geared to reinforce and enhance understanding. Independent research activities involving the internet are included in both the Year 1 and Year 2 teaching routes.



### ANY QUESTIONS?

Please contact Mrs Elliott, Head of Department, and she will be happy to advise you further.

# Subjects: Chemistry

## THE COURSE

In Year 12, students study the fundamentals of physical, inorganic, and organic chemistry, building knowledge of atomic structure, bonding, and the properties of matter. They learn chemical calculations, explore how reactions proceed in terms of rate and extent, and study energy changes, redox reactions, and the chemistry of halogens and alkaline earth metals. Organic chemistry is extended to classify and predict the behaviour of millions of compounds, developing essential understanding for everyday applications.

In Year 13, students continue studying organic chemistry, as well as kinetics, equilibria, acid-base theory, instrumental analysis, transition elements, catalysis, electrochemical cells, and chemical energy changes, applying knowledge to understand trends across the periodic table. Practical work—such as titrations, ion testing, measuring reaction rates and energy changes, preparing and recrystallising organic compounds, testing functional groups, and combustion of hydrocarbons—is integral, developing independent thinking, mathematical application, and scientific method.

Assessment consists of three two-hour exam papers: two covering specified content (35% each) and one covering any content (30%). Additional support is offered via Chemistry Clinic sessions, extra lessons for A\* candidates, and enrichment opportunities such as the BMAT, Cambridge Chemistry Challenge, and Chemistry Olympiad.



### ANY QUESTIONS?

Please contact Ms Burke, Head of Department and she will be happy to advise you further. Alternatively, talk to your Chemistry teacher.

# Subjects: PE

## THE COURSE

Over the two years, students will study five main components. The first, Physical Factors Affecting Performance (01), explores the body's key systems and how they respond to changes in diet and exercise. Students also learn about the effects of force and motion on the body and how these principles can be applied to improve performance. This component includes three topics: applied anatomy and physiology, exercise physiology, and biomechanics.

The second component, Psychological Factors Affecting Performance (02), focuses on the theories and models that influence learning and performance in physical activities. Students examine different training methods, feedback techniques, and why their effectiveness varies between individuals. They also study psychological factors such as group dynamics, leadership, and stress. This section covers two topics: skill acquisition and sports psychology.

The third component, Socio-Cultural Issues in Physical Activity and Sport (03), looks at the social and cultural influences that have shaped sport over time. Students consider the impact of hosting global sporting events like the Olympic Games and explore how modern technology affects both performers and spectators. The topics here are sport and society, and contemporary issues in physical activity and sport.

In addition to theoretical learning, students complete Practical Performance (04), where they are assessed as either a performer or coach in one practical activity. They must demonstrate effective performance, tactical or technical skills, and adherence to rules under applied conditions. Finally, in Evaluation and Analysis of Performance for Improvement (05), students observe a live or recorded performance by a peer and provide an oral analysis and critical evaluation of that performance.

Assessment consists of three written examinations covering physical, psychological, and socio-cultural factors, which together account for 70% of the final grade. The remaining 30% comes from non-exam assessments, including practical performance and the evaluation and analysis task (EAPI)



### ANY QUESTIONS?

Please contact Mr Phelan, Head of Department or Mr Carney, PE co-ordinator, and we will be happy to advise you further.

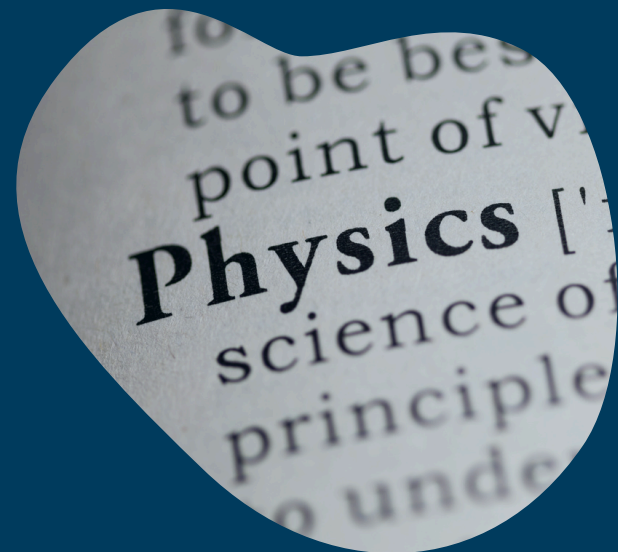
# Subjects: Physics

## THE COURSE

Physics A Level is a linear qualification, with all exams taken in the summer of Year 13. The core content covers measurements and their errors, particles and radiation, waves, mechanics and materials, electricity, further mechanics and thermal physics, fields, and nuclear physics, with an optional topic in Year 13 on Turning Points in Physics, including quantum physics and relativity.

## PRACTICAL WORK

Practical work will be assessed in the written papers. 15% of the total A level marks will be awarded for practical knowledge and understanding. A separate “endorsement” of practical work will be assessed by teachers. This will not be graded (simply a pass or fail mark). If students pass it will be reported on their certificate, otherwise it will not be reported. Students must carry out a minimum of 12 set practical activities across the two year A level. At the Blue Coat, students will have more opportunities to learn and use practical skills to link theory with practice, deepening their knowledge and understanding. You can find out more about the practical based questions by viewing the specimen examination questions and mark schemes at [www.aqa.org.uk](http://www.aqa.org.uk)



### ANY QUESTIONS?

Please contact Mr Doherty, Head of Department, and he will be happy to advise you further. Specimen papers and mark schemes are available at: [www.aqa.org.uk](http://www.aqa.org.uk)

# Subjects: Psychology

## THE COURSE

Psychology A Level explores human behaviour through the study of developmental, biological, and cognitive processes.

In Year 1, students investigate infant attachment, orphanage case studies, practical research methods, classical and modern psychological approaches, and the role of the nervous and endocrine systems.

Year 2 expands into issues and options, including gender development, schizophrenia, forensic psychology, and debates on culture, free will, nature vs. nurture, and holism vs. reductionism.

Assessment involves extended writing, research design, and a mix of question types.



### ANY QUESTIONS?

Please contact Mrs Elliott, Head of Department, who will be happy to help and advise you.

Specimen papers are available at

[www.aqa.org.uk](http://www.aqa.org.uk)

# Subjects: Computer Science

## THE COURSE

Computer Science A Level has three components: Computer Systems, Algorithms and Programming, and a Programming Project.

### COMPUTER SYSTEMS

This component covers the characteristics of modern processors, input/output and storage devices, software development, data exchange, data types, data structures, algorithms, and legal, moral, cultural, and ethical issues. Assessment is a 2½-hour written exam worth 140 marks at the end of Year 13.

### ALGORITHMS AND PROGRAMMING

This component covers computational thinking, problem solving, and algorithms to solve problems, including standard algorithms. Assessment is a 2½-hour written exam worth 140 marks at the end of Year 13.

### PROGRAMMING PROJECT

Students complete a practical programming project where they analyse, design, develop, test, evaluate, and document a program in a high-level programming language. The project is marked out of 70 and contributes 20% of the overall A Level grade.



### ANY QUESTIONS?

Please contact Mr Stokes, Subject Coordinator, who will be happy to give you further guidance.

# Subjects: Economics

## THE COURSE

The course covers Microeconomics and Macroeconomics and is assessed through three two-hour papers at the end of Year 13.

Paper 1: Markets and Market Failure – Section A: data response questions (choose 1 of 2 contexts, 40 marks); Section B: essay questions (choose 1 of 3, 40 marks).

Paper 2: National and International Economy – same format as Paper 1, focused on Macroeconomics.

Paper 3: Economic Principles and Issues – Section A: multiple-choice questions (30 marks); Section B: case study questions requiring written answers (50 marks).

You will enjoy this course if you want a subject that is academically challenging and highly regarded by universities like Oxbridge, relevant to the modern world and recent economic events, and encourages discussion of current affairs.

It is investigation-based rather than passive learning, developing a wide range of skills useful in other subjects and future employment. The course promotes logical, systematic thinking, independent research, and the effective use of ICT tools such as spreadsheets, the internet, and presentation software.



### ANY QUESTIONS?

Please contact Mr Farrell, Head of Department, who will be happy to provide more guidance, support and information

## THE COURSE

The English Language and Literature Combined Course is designed for those who not only want to carry on with their study of Literature but also want to understand how language affects the way we act and communicate with one another. It is just as academic as English Literature but contains an analytical element about language use that is more high profile than in the English Literature syllabus. Students will delve into the intricacies surrounding the study of linguistics and will learn about the science of language.

In Year 12, students explore a unit entitled "Telling Stories". It is split into three parts. Section A – "Remembered Places", covers an anthology of fiction and non-fiction writing about Paris. Section B – "Imagined Worlds" - comprises one compulsory question on a prose set text, Frankenstein by Mary Shelley. Section C – "Poetic Voices" – comprises one compulsory question on a poetry set text comprising a selection of poems by Robert Browning.

In Year 13, students cover a unit entitled "Exploring Conflict". This unit is divided into two parts. Section A – "Writing about Society" comprises one piece of re-creative writing using a set text, The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini. A critical commentary is also required. Section B – "Dramatic Encounters" - comprises one question from a choice of two on a drama set text, Tennessee Williams' A Streetcar Named Desire.

Students will also complete a non-examined assessment (NEA) comprising a personal investigation that explores a specific linguistic technique or theme in both literary and non-literary discourse (2,500–3,000 words).

Students will be formally examined on their work over the two years at the end of the whole A Level course in Year 13.



### ANY QUESTIONS?

Please contact Mrs Bennett, Head of Department, who will be happy to advise.

Specimen papers to be found at  
[www.aqa.org.uk](http://www.aqa.org.uk)

# Subjects: English Literature

## THE COURSE

The syllabus provides a wide range of appealing but challenging texts. *Students must enjoy reading and be prepared to read widely.* Under the broad heading of "Literary Genres", students will study "Aspects of Tragedy" a course consisting of the study of one Shakespeare play ("*Othello*"), one further work of drama (Arthur Miller's *Death of a Salesman*) and a collection of poetry by John Keats.

Year 13 students will study "Texts and Genres: elements of crime writing". They will study three texts: *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner* by Samuel Taylor Coleridge, *Brighton Rock* by Graham Greene and *When Will There Be Good News?* by Kate Atkinson. The exam will include an unseen passage drawn from the crime genre.

Students will also complete non-examined assessment (NEA), comprising a study of two texts: one poetry and one prose. They will choose a different critical viewpoint from the AQA Critical Anthology with which to approach each text. They must write two essays of 1250 -1500 words, each responding to a different text. One essay may be re-creative. The re-creative piece will be accompanied by a commentary. Texts may be chosen by the students with guidance from their teachers.

Students will be formally examined on their work over the two years at the end of the whole A level course in Year 13.



### ANY QUESTIONS?

Please contact Mrs Bennett, Head of Department, who will be happy to advise.

Specimen papers to be found at

[www.aqa.org.uk](http://www.aqa.org.uk)

# Subjects: Geography

## THE COURSE

During the two-year course we shall be exploring a variety of topics in both physical and human Geography. There are fieldwork trips to The Lake District, Liverpool city centre and an optional trip to Freiburg in Germany to study sustainability.

### PAPER 1: PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY

Paper 1 focuses on three main topics: Hazards, Cold Environments, and Earth's Life Support Systems. Hazards covers earthquakes, volcanoes, and tropical storms, exploring their causes, impacts, and human responses. Cold Environments examines glacial landforms and human use and conservation, including a field visit to the Lake District and a case study on Alaska. Earth's Life Support Systems investigates water, rivers, floods, and the carbon cycle, with fieldwork at a river catchment in Keswick and a tropical rainforest case study. Assessment is via a 2 hour 30 minute written exam comprising multiple-choice, short-answer, and extended essay questions, accounting for 40% of the A Level.

### PAPER 2: HUMAN GEOGRAPHY

Paper 2 covers Global Systems and Global Governance, Changing Places, and Contemporary Urban Environments. Global Systems examines globalisation, international trade, transnational corporations (TNCs), and the benefits and costs of globalisation, including environmental and social impacts. Changing Places explores the character of local and contrasting places through fieldwork, considering location, physical geography, history, land use, infrastructure, and demographics. Contemporary Urban Environments studies urbanisation patterns since 1945, the growth of megacities, urban processes in Liverpool, impacts on climate and rivers, and strategies for sustainable urban development. Assessment is via a 2 hour 30 minute written exam with multiple-choice, short-answer, and extended essay questions, accounting for 40% of the A Level.



### ANY QUESTIONS?

Please contact Mr Jones, Head of Department, who will be happy to advise. Specimen papers to be found at [www.aqa.org.uk](http://www.aqa.org.uk)

# Subjects: Government & Politics

## THE COURSE

The course is divided into three broad areas: UK Government and Politics, US Government and Politics, and Political Ideas.

### Module 1: The Government & Politics of the UK

Students examine voting behaviour, electoral systems, and the impact of social, economic, and political changes on UK elections, including Brexit and recent General Elections. The course explores pressure groups, political parties, the uncodified constitution, Parliament, ministers, Prime Ministers, and governance at local, national, and devolved levels, with case studies on leaders such as Thatcher, Blair, Brown, and Johnson.

### Module 2: The Government & Politics of the USA

Focuses on the US Constitution, federal government, Congress, the Presidency, and the Supreme Court. Students analyse recent political events, including the presidencies of Obama and Trump, exploring the effects of hyper-partisanship, populism, and social media on American democracy.

### Module 3: Political Ideas

Students study key political ideologies, including Conservatism, Socialism, Liberalism, and Feminism, and how these ideas have evolved over time. Topics include differences within political movements and the impact of leaders such as Thatcher, Blair, Cameron, and Corbyn.

The course combines theoretical study with contemporary case studies, helping students connect political ideas to real-world events and develop analytical and evaluative skills.



### ANY QUESTIONS?

Please contact Mrs Brindle-McDowell, Acting Head of Department, who will be happy to help.

# Subjects: History

## THE COURSE

The course is divided into three broad areas: UK Government and Politics, US Government and Politics, and Political Ideas.

### Module 1: The Government & Politics of the UK

Students examine voting behaviour, electoral systems, and the impact of social, economic, and political changes on UK elections, including Brexit and recent General Elections. The course explores pressure groups, political parties, the uncodified constitution, Parliament, ministers, Prime Ministers, and governance at local, national, and devolved levels, with case studies on leaders such as Thatcher, Blair, Brown, and Johnson.

### Module 2: The Government & Politics of the USA

Focuses on the US Constitution, federal government, Congress, the Presidency, and the Supreme Court. Students analyse recent political events, including the presidencies of Obama and Trump, exploring the effects of hyper-partisanship, populism, and social media on American democracy.

### Module 3: Political Ideas

Students study key political ideologies, including Conservatism, Socialism, Liberalism, and Feminism, and how these ideas have evolved over time. Topics include differences within political movements and the impact of leaders such as Thatcher, Blair, Cameron, and Corbyn.



### ANY QUESTIONS?

Please contact Mrs Brindle-McDowell, Acting Head of Department, who will be happy to help.

# Subjects: Latin

## THE COURSE

Language work consists of reading prose and verse extracts from a variety of authors and practising translation techniques. There is some new grammatical input, but most Latin grammar has been covered at GCSE. We practise some English to Latin translation to provide support for the development of linguistic understanding, but this is not tested in the A Level exam (unless you choose to do the Composition option).

There are no vocabulary lists prescribed by OCR, but there will be weekly vocabulary tests based on the AS list and a vocabulary list from a previous specification which will sufficiently prepare you for the A Level. Both lists contain approximately 900 words each.

You will study at least **one prose** set text (or alternatively two shorter texts) **and** also **one verse** set text (or alternatively two shorter texts), of about 450 lines each, in detail. You will study the context, translation and literary features of these texts.

There is no coursework.

**Examination – FOUR papers are sat in May / June.**



### ANY QUESTIONS?

Please contact Dr Lawell, Subject Co-ordinator, who will provide more information and guidance to help you make your decision.

## THE COURSE

The study of a language equips you with valuable skills that can help you in your personal and professional life. Students who have studied languages in the Sixth form have gone on to pursue diverse careers such as Law, Engineering, Journalism, Accountancy and Finance as well as teaching in the UK and abroad. We have links with Sixth Forms in San Sebastian, and we run an annual exchange trip to northern Spain.

The core content is Y12 and Y13 is:

- Social issues and trends
- Political and artistic culture
- Grammar

In addition, you will undertake the study of a literary text (Year 13) and a film (Year 12) and carry out an individual research project on a key question that interests you relating to the target language country.



### ANY QUESTIONS?

Please contact Mr Adamson, Head of Department, who will be happy to give you further guidance.

# Subjects: Mathematics

## THE COURSE

In Mathematics you will study Pure Maths, Mechanics and Statistics. You will do some Pure Maths, Statistics and Mechanics in Year 12, and complete these areas of study in Year 13. Assessment takes place at the end of Year 13 and consists of three 2 hour papers worth 100 marks each. Paper 1 and Paper 2 both assess the Pure Maths content and Paper 3 assesses the Mechanics and Statistics content.

In Pure Maths, you build on the knowledge and techniques learned at GCSE, covering a range of advanced topics. These include algebra and functions, coordinate geometry, exponentials and logarithms, numerical methods, sequences and series, trigonometry, differentiation, integration, vectors, and proof.

In Mechanics, you will learn to model and analyse the physical world around us, covering topics such as quantities and units, kinematics, forces and Newton's Laws, and moments.

In Statistics, you will learn how to collect and analyse data to make predictions about future events, covering key techniques such as sampling, data presentation and interpretation, probability, statistical distributions, and hypothesis testing.



### ANY QUESTIONS?

Please contact Mr Fee, Head of Department, who will be happy to give you further guidance.

# Subjects: Further Mathematics

## THE COURSE

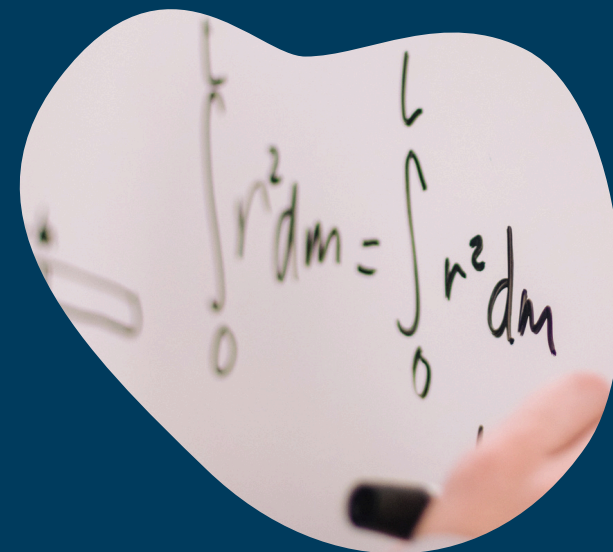
Further Mathematics is studied in addition to Mathematics and results in the award of two A Levels. In Further Maths you will continue to study Pure Maths, Mechanics and Statistics. Assessment takes place at the end of Year 13 and consists of four 1½ hour papers each worth 75 marks. Paper 1 and Paper 2 both assess the Pure Maths content and then the Mechanics and Statistics content are assessed on Papers 3 and 4.

Students choosing this option study the content for the Maths A Level in Year 12 and then the content for the Further Maths A Level in Year 13; the Further Maths content follows on from the Maths content. All assessments for both Maths and Further Maths are taken at the end of Year 13.

In Pure Maths, topics include further algebra and functions, further calculus, differential equations, further vectors, complex numbers, polar coordinates, hyperbolic functions, matrices, and proof.

In Mechanics, you will study momentum and impulse, collisions, centres of mass, work and energy, and elastic strings and springs.

Statistics covers linear regression, discrete and continuous distributions, correlation, hypothesis testing, and chi-squared tests.



### ANY QUESTIONS?

Please contact Mr Fee, Head of Department, who will be happy to give you further guidance.

# Subjects: Music

## THE COURSE

Music A Level is a contemporary and engaging course designed to cater for all types of musicians irrespective of preferred style or genre. It provides an excellent foundation for a range of post-18 options including the study of music at University or Conservatoire, or as a creative addition to your suite of A level subjects which are required to study other subjects, from medicine to law.

A Level Music consists of three components, with students able to focus on either Performing or Composing by following Option A or Option B.

The first component, Listening and Appraising Music (40%), develops knowledge and understanding of musical elements, contexts, and language. Students study six areas: Instrumental Music of Haydn, Mozart and Beethoven; Popular Song – Blues, Jazz, Swing and Big Band; Developments in Instrumental Jazz, 1910 to the present day; Religious Music of the Baroque Period; Programme Music, 1820–1910; and Innovations in Music, 1900 to the present day. Areas of Study 1 and 2 are compulsory, while students choose two from Areas 3–6.

The Performing component (Option A: 25% or Option B: 35%) requires a minimum performance of six minutes (Option A) or ten minutes (Option B) in any style or genre, either as a soloist or ensemble, or via music technology.

The Composing component (Option B: 25% or Option A: 35%) involves creating two compositions: one in response to a brief set by OCR and a free composition of at least four minutes. Students can compose for instrumental/vocal performance with a notated score or digitally using music software. Option A also requires completing a set of technical exercises in a specific style alongside the compositions.



### ANY QUESTIONS?

Please contact Mr Emery, Head of Department, who will be happy to give you further guidance.

## Internal Applicants

Students currently at The Blue Coat School do not need to apply for a place in the Sixth Form.

Students must meet the minimum entry requirements set out by The Blue Coat School. These include an overall entry requirement and individual subject requirements. The minimum requirements are the same for both internal and external Sixth Form candidates. Providing a current Year 11 student meets the minimum requirements, they are guaranteed a place in the Sixth Form at The Blue Coat School.

## The options process

The options process for Year 11 students who wish to take a Sixth Form place at The Blue Coat School begins on Thursday 15th January 2026.

Students must complete an A Level subject choices form.

The A Level subject choices online form must be completed and submitted by the student by Thursday 12th March 2026.

## External Applicants

The Blue Coat School Liverpool admits 175 students into Year 12 to study GCE A level courses, with many of our Year 11 students continuing on to study A Levels at Blue Coat. There are 15-20 places available for external applicants. The number is dependent on the number of internal Y11 students progressing to Y12. As a result, our Sixth Form is heavily oversubscribed.

As part of our admission procedure, students who wish to join our school for Sixth Form should use the application form link on our website, which captures their aspirations and who they are as individuals. The application process for external applicants will open on Monday 12th January 2026. On that date, information and guidance for The Blue Coat School Sixth Form will be available from the School website [www.bluecoatschoolliverpool.org.uk](http://www.bluecoatschoolliverpool.org.uk)). Application forms must be completed and received by the School by 4.00pm on Friday 13th February 2026.

All applications to the Sixth Form will be carefully reviewed. As part of the admissions process, shortlisted students will be invited to attend an interview. On results day, students must bring copies of their GCSE certificates (or equivalent) to confirm their eligibility for their chosen courses.

Once all required information has been received and reviewed, including interview outcomes, school references, and exam results, students will be contacted within 48 hours to confirm whether they have secured a place for September.

As many of our Year 11 students continue into Sixth Form, the places available to external candidates are approximately 15-20, meaning that we are heavily oversubscribed. We therefore recommend that all students explore a number of educational institutions to ensure that they have other options should they be unsuccessful in obtaining a place at Blue Coat.

## **Results Day**

Applicants who have submitted an Expression of interest will be asked to bring their results into school. Applicants who are unable to attend in person must make arrangements for the school to receive copies of your results. If we do not receive copies of your results on Results Day, then we cannot consider you for a place.

If you do not submit an Expression of interest but achieve the necessary GCSE results to be admitted and are still interested in joining The Blue Coat School, please contact the School on GCSE Results Day in August to register your interest.

Students who are successful in obtaining a place in the Sixth Form for September 2025 will usually be notified the day after Results day.

## **Appeals**

Applicants who are not admitted to The Blue Coat School Sixth Form are entitled to appeal the school's decision. You will need to contact The Blue Coat School on GCSE Results' Day to request information regarding appeals.

# Timeline

Date	Time	Event
Saturday 10 January 2026	10.00 am – 12 noon	External Sixth Form Talk/Tour
Thursday 15 January 2026	5.00 pm	Internal Y11 Options Meeting
Tuesday 20 January 2026	4.15 pm	Year 11 Parents Evening
Monday 26 January 2026	-	Internal Y11 Options Afternoon
Thursday 12 March 2026	4.00pm	Y11 Option form deadline/Deadline for External Application Form
Before August 2026		External Applicant Interviews
Thursday 20 August 2026	9.15am	GCSE results day
Date to be confirmed	-	Appeals
Early September	-	Year 12 Induction

If you have any questions about the admissions procedure please email [admissions@bluecoatschool.org.uk](mailto:admissions@bluecoatschool.org.uk)

# Entry Requirements

The Blue Coat School offers students the opportunity to study 3 or 4 A Levels:

To study 3 A levels you must have a minimum of:

- GCSE Mathematics Grade 6
- GCSE English Grade 6
- 56 points from your best 8 GCSE's

To study 4 A levels you must have a minimum of:

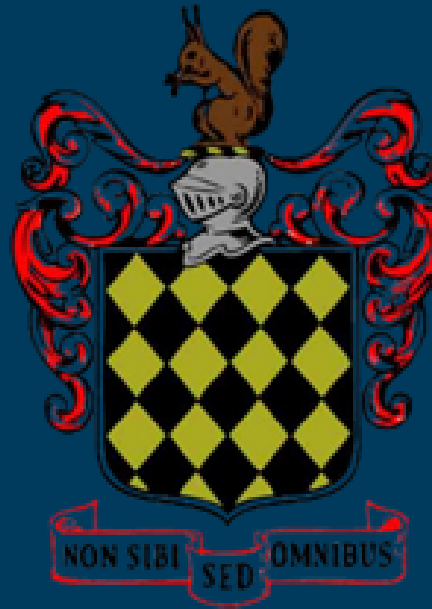
- GCSE Mathematics Grade 6
- GCSE English Grade 6
- 66 points from your best 8 GCSE's

You must also satisfy the minimum requirements for the subjects you choose to study:

Subject	GCSE minimum 3 A Levels requirement	GCSE minimum 4 A Levels requirement	Or
Art	Art: Grade 7	Art: Grade 8	Art BTEC: Distinction
Biology	Biology: Grade 7	Biology: Grade 8	Core/Additional/Further Science: Grades 8 7 or 7 77
Chemistry	Chemistry: Grade 7	Chemistry: Grade 8	Core/Additional/Further Science: Grades 8 7 or 7 77
Computer Science	Computer Science: Grade 7 Mathematics: Grade 7	Computer Science: Grade 8 Mathematics: Grade 8	
Economics	Mathematics: Grade 7 English Language or Literature:	Mathematics: Grade 8 English Language or Literature:	
English (Language & Literature)	English Language: Grade 7	English Language: Grade 8	
English (Literature)	English Literature: Grade 7	English Literature: Grade 8	

# Entry Requirements

Subject	GCSE minimum 3 A Levels requirement	GCSE minimum 4 A Levels requirement	Or
French	French: Grade 7	French: Grade 8	
Further Mathematics (can only be taken as a fourth A Level)	Mathematics: Grade 8	Mathematics: Grade 9	
Geography	Geography: Grade 7	Geography: Grade 8	
Government & Politics	History: Grade 7	History: Grade 8	English Language or Literature: Grade 7
History	History: Grade 7	History: Grade 8	
Latin	Latin: Grade 7	Latin: Grade 8	
Mathematics	Mathematics: Grade 7	Mathematics: Grade 8	
Music	Music: Grade 7	Music: Grade 8	ABRSM: Grade 5 Theory & Practical
PE	PE: Grade 7		Biology: Grade 7 BTEC Sport or Cambridge Nationals in Sport Science: Distinction
Physics	Physics: Grade 7	Physics: Grade 8	Core/Additional/Further Science: Grades 8 7 or 7 7
Psychology	English Language or Literature: Grade 7, Mathematics or Science subject: Grade 6	English Language or Literature: Grade 8 Mathematics or Science subject: Grade 8	
Spanish	Spanish: Grade 7	Spanish: Grade 8	



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