



## SUBJECT COMBINATIONS AND RELATED CAREER PATHWAYS

When making decisions about potential Sixth Form courses, it is important to consider how your chosen subjects will help you to achieve your future aspirations. Certain combinations of subjects complement one another extremely well; this is important to know, particularly if you have an idea of the career pathway that you would like to follow.

Below are some examples of subject combinations that work well together, along with information about the types of careers that they are likely to lead to.

### **A-Level Chemistry, A-Level Biology & A-Level PE**

A-Level Chemistry and Biology are two of the most commonly combined subjects across the whole of the Sixth Form. Many students opt for these subjects as a route into careers relating to medicine, pharmacy and neuroscience to name just a few. When studied alongside A-Level PE, students have an even greater range of options available to them. This is a particularly common combination for students interested in subject areas such as physiotherapy.

### **A-Level Mathematics, A-Level Physics & A-Level Computer Science**

There is a very real demand for high quality STEM graduates currently in the UK and beyond. Students who take A-Level Maths, Physics and Computer Science will be well prepared to work in fields related to computer programming, such as software design or a systems analyst. Students can also look at careers in areas such as engineering, as well as looking slightly further afield at options like architecture.

### **A-Level English, A-Level History & A-Level Psychology**

Studying a programme of A-Level English, History and Psychology would give students a very well rounded skill set that would be highly sought after by universities and employers. English and History, in particular, are described as facilitating subjects, meaning that they help students to develop skills that are valuable across the majority of courses, such as analysis of evidence to reach a valid conclusion. Psychology complements this very well, further developing students' ability to think both logically and critically. With this type of programme, students would be able to access the vast majority of university courses at top performing universities.

### **A-Level Business Studies, A-Level Sociology & A-Level Law**

Yet another combination of subjects whose skills complement one another perfectly. Students will learn how to communicate their ideas in a logical and coherent manner, in order to write high quality pieces of extended writing. This will stand them in excellent stead for university style study. The career areas that students are likely to progress on to include working with the law, social work, education, or even entering the world of business.

### **A-Level Geography, A-Level Philosophy and Ethics & A-Level Film Studies**

A-Level Geography is another facilitating subject, one that works particularly well alongside other Social Science subjects such as Philosophy and Ethics. A-Level Film Studies requires a very similar skill set to these two subjects and so this combination of courses can work incredibly well. It also gives students a wide range of options for their future career aspirations. Physical Geography links well to science related fields, whilst elements of Human Geography, Philosophy and Ethics and also Film Studies provide excellent preparation for a more arts based pathway. Film Studies, in particular, is really useful for more creative students who are interested in careers such as film production.

### **A-Level Law, A-Level Business Studies & Applied ICT**

Many of our Sixth Form students choose to combine A-Level study with one of our Level 3 Applied qualifications, which have more of a vocational focus than traditional A-Levels. Law and Business Studies build upon similar skill sets and for this reason are a popular combination of subjects amongst current students. Coupled with Applied ICT, which gives an in-depth understanding of how ICT systems can be used in the workplace, students are well prepared to enter a broad range of potential career pathways, with Business related careers proving particularly popular for students with this academic background.

### **Applied Science & Applied Health and Social Care**

For students who aspire to a career relating to science but prefer the combined approach of both coursework and examinations, then this particular pathway is an excellent choice. Applied Science gives students a detailed understanding across the three disciplines of Physics, Chemistry and Biology. Applied Health and Social Care then allows students to put this understanding to practical use, which is excellent preparation for students who are interested in careers such as nursing, or even pathways related to social work or counselling.

**As part of their preparation for Sixth Form, it is vital that students carry out research into the different career pathways that are available to them. This includes looking at possible university courses, apprenticeship opportunities and also routes into employment. By doing this, students will be in the best possible position to make informed choices about the right Sixth Form courses for them.**