Sixth Form

1803

The Duke of York's Royal Military School

Looking forward with confidence, looking back with pride

From the Principal

I am delighted you are considering The Duke of York's Royal Military School (DOYRMS) for Sixth Form. We have a very simple, but ambitious vision of providing an all-round education with an academic focus. From the moment you enter the campus, you will be amazed at the facilities on offer and the breadth of opportunities our students can access; this is so much more than just a Sixth Form.

As well as stunning learning, performance, and sports facilities, the new purpose-built Sixth Form accommodation provides en-suite facilities and an environment that is a stepping stone into university and adult life. Our students are guided and supported through a wide range of academic courses that develop independent study skills and a thirst to become life-long learners.

Our students are the best thing about the School. Using our values of courage, integrity, respect, commitment, loyalty and self-discipline, students are encouraged to apply these in everything they do, particularly in the classroom. Our students develop a level of maturity, resilience and are socially confident as a result of the School's ethos and wealth of extra-curricular ventures. Students here are encouraged to take risks with their learning and be of the mind-set, 'No Regrets'.

We have something unique here, a pursuit of excellence with our very special ingredients which set Dukies' apart. Students at The Duke of York's Royal Military School 'look forward with confidence and look back with pride' and I would be delighted if you were able to visit us, meet our fabulous Sixth Formers and see for yourself what's on offer.

Very best wishes,

Mr Alex Foreman
Principal

Academic success and opportunity

Sixth Form represents a pivotal point in any student's educational career. It is a time when students discover a sense of direction and purpose, and more importantly, a time when they can begin to express their individuality. The DOYRMS Sixth Form offers an all-round education with an academic focus and thus attracts a regular intake of new students, as well as existing pupils who continue their studies.

Sixth Form provides increased opportunities for students to manage their own time, however, this increased level of independence is met with high academic expectations. Offering a range of traditional A Level courses as well as vocational subjects, students can tailor an individual academic programme. The School averages a B grade at Key Stage 5. Our exceptional independent careers advice allows students every opportunity to choose from a range of careers and educational options. The majority choose to enrol on higher education degree courses, and we are proud to frequently include Cambridge, Durham, UCL, Bath, Exeter and Manchester in our leavers' destinations, to read subjects which range from Law to Medicine, Sports Science, Economics and Theology and Religion. Students have also been successful in attaining highly competitive apprenticeship positions. These admirable results allow the School to retain its tradition of excellence and high achievement.

The boarding house, the academics and the co-curricular programme are inextricably linked. By becoming wholly involved in all these aspects students immediately have a sense of identity and belonging. Students learn to be honest with themselves, respect others and work hard to achieve their best, fostering and promoting the school values. The Sixth Form staff team are also committed to this ethos and as a cohesive unit provide holistic academic and pastoral care.

The opportunity, guidance and support our Sixth Form offers is unique and invaluable. Students are enthused and encouraged to make the most of their time here and develop into mature young adults, able to make intelligent, sensible and mature choices.

Mrs Jo Towers
Head of Sixth Form

Selected destinations

UNIVERSITY DESTINATION 2022	COURSE
Bangor University	Primary Education, Ocean Science
Brunel University	Engineering, Sport, Health & Exercise Science
City, University of London	Mathematics with Data Science
Lancaster University	Computer Science, Natural Sciences, Law
Oxford Brookes	Real Estate
Reading University	Psychology
Royal Holloway	Geography
University of Aberdeen	Politics and International Relations, Biomedical Sciences in Developmental Biology
University of Durham	English Literature
University of Exeter	Mechanical Engineering
University of Kent	Accounting and Finance
University of Northern British Columbia	International Relations
University of Nottingham	Mechanical Engineering
University of Reading	Law, Nutrition, International Business Management

OTHER DESTINATIONS 2022
Apprenticeships: Finance and Accounting, Economics and Finance
Armed Forces
Employment
Police Force

UNIVERSITY DESTINATION 2021	COURSE
Cambridge University	Law
Cardiff University	English Literature
Durham University	Theology and Religion
Keele University	Medicine
Lancaster University	Chemical Engineering
London School of Economics	Politics and History
London South Bank University	Acting
Loughborough University	Computer Science
Middlesex University London	Dance
University Campus of Football Business	Sports Journalism
University College London	Economics and Finance
University of Exeter	Law
University of Manchester	Pharmacology

Our Sixth Form

At DOYRMS, our Sixth Form students share common aims; to develop academic rigour, close friendships, career ambitions and independence in a caring and lively environment. Staff who support them are passionate about ensuring all students embrace a sense of possibility in what they can achieve, and have the ambition and confidence to drive themselves forward to be the best they can possibly be.

QUALITY TEACHING

Our excellent teaching staff are committed and skilful with a real enthusiasm for their subjects. It will be hard work – but it will also be exciting and highly rewarding.

SUPPORT

Each member of the Sixth Form is allocated a tutor to assist them with their academic studies and preparation for life beyond the School. Tutor groups meet weekly to discuss progress and, all tutors do a weekly evening duty in Centenary, our Sixth Form Boarding House, allowing for incredible academic support and mentoring.

NEXT STEP PROGRAMME

The Next Step Programme makes sure every student is prepared for life beyond the School and able to achieve their future education and career ambitions. Along with comprehensive UCAS and careers advice, the programme looks to go further in supporting the student's development for the 'Next Step'. The programme ranges from preparing a simple meal to generating links with industry, and looks to enhance the student's soft skills that are so vital when seeking employment. The programme also offers support to parents, so they are in a position to help their child through this important period.

CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The School provides a rich variety of opportunities outside the classroom including competitive Sports fixtures, Combined Cadet Force, drama productions, Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award, Model UN, debating, music ensembles, ceremonial parades, a choice of some 70 clubs, and much more. Therefore, every student has a genuine opportunity to develop a passion outside of the classroom.

ALUMNI

A thriving and active alumni association supports the School, with Sixth Formers benefitting from careers contacts, work experience, job-specific advice and even financial support.

All leaving Year 13s can join The Dukies' Association and enjoy a lifelong network. There are also sporting and social events such as annual hockey matches and the renowned Reunion Dinner.

Centenary House

Centenary House offers superb en-suite accommodation for the Sixth Form and gives students a greater opportunity for independence, while still providing the support they need in this vital phase of their education. In return, the House expects students to set the highest personal standards; by working hard, contributing to all areas of House and School life, and becoming role models to the younger years.

STAFFING

Centenary has four members of staff whose living accommodation is attached to the boarding house, providing 24/7 support for the students.

OPPORTUNITIES DURING FREE TIME

In a busy boarding school environment, it is important for students to have the opportunity for some down time. The House has four dayrooms (common rooms), each with Sky television, comfortable seating and basic cooking facilities. Students can visit the town, outside of School commitments, and at weekends they can also travel slightly further afield to the historic university city of Canterbury.

The House holds regular activities at weekends including barbecues, karaoke, the Centenary Olympics and much more. Half termly off-site trips are also arranged, in consultation with the students, with recent trips visiting trampoline parks, the cinema, Bluewater shopping centre and Thorpe Park.

Mrs Sarah Castle
Centenary Housemistress

"Our unique School has a long and illustrious, history of which I am proud."

Military heritage

The School was founded in Chelsea in 1803 by His Royal Highness Frederick Duke of York to care for the orphans of soldiers. In 1909, the School relocated to its present 150 acre countryside site near Dover, Kent, and expanded to include children whose parents were serving in the Armed Forces. In 2010, it became the first state full boarding academy, opening its doors to all families wishing to choose this iconic school for their child's secondary education. HRH Prince Edward Duke of Kent is the School's Patron and last inspected a parade in 2016. Many royal visitors have been welcomed including HM The Queen in 2005, Prince Harry in 2015 and HRH The Princess Royal in 2015/2022.

PARADES

Our ceremonial parades and magnificent military band make our School unique and are a time honoured way for students to celebrate our traditions. These culminate in a full Trooping the Colour ceremony on our spectacular Grand Day in July. One of our most distinctive historical hallmarks was inscribed upon us in 1825 when we were granted the privilege of carrying Colours. The original Colours were presented by King George IV at Chelsea. The School Colour trooped today was presented to the School by Field Marshal HRH The Duke of Kent KG, GCMG, GCVO, ADC in 2003.

COMBINED CADET FORCE

In Year 12, students participate in the Combined Cadet Force, as part of the Army, Royal Navy or Royal Air Force sections. They experience the excitement and challenges of the great outdoors, testing their team building and leadership skills in ways which simply are not possible in the classroom. Working to the CCF syllabus, cadets train once a week throughout the year. Students in Year 12 participate in an annual camp in the UK where they experience a thrilling range of both military and non-military activities, setting them exhilarating challenges that give a real sense of achievement.

MILITARY BAND

We are enormously proud to have a full military marching band, incorporating a core of 28 drummers and buglers. No-one could fail to be moved by the spectacular sight and sound of its 90 members leading the School's regular parades. The separate drum corps is equally impressive. We find that participating in the band helps students appreciate the value of teamwork, giving them the chance to show off their instrumental skills. Our Sixth Form band members can find themselves playing at important national events such as the annual Torch of Remembrance service at Westminster Abbey.

Leadership

Every Sixth Former holds at least one position of responsibility in the School whether as a mentor to the Junior and Senior Boarding Houses, as a Prefect or within our Ceremonial duty system.

PREFECTS

To become a Prefect, students apply for positions in Year 12 and are interviewed by a member of the Senior Leadership Team. Each year, the prestigious role of Chief School Prefect is filled, supported by two Senior Prefects. They in turn will be supported by approximately 20 prefects.

Prefects have a high profile role with responsibilities throughout the School. They oversee the induction process for new Year 7s, arriving at School a day early at the start of term to help the newcomers settle in, acting as mentors and a first point of contact.

Prefects also supervise proceedings in the Dining Hall and Chapel, offer Junior and Senior House support and help at major school events.

CEREMONIAL POSITION OF JUNIOR UNDER OFFICER

Many Year 13s hold the ceremonial position of Junior Under Officer. Each JUO is in charge of a small guard of approximately 20 pupils, responsible for ensuring they are well turned out and their drill is sharp and precise. This is particularly important on Grand Day, when they are integral for ensuring that the most high profile ceremonial event of the year is successful.

Other leadership opportunities include those in the Combined Cadet Force, Sports Captains, Sport Leaders, Peer Listeners, Health Ambassadors, DofE Ambassadors and Arts Captains.

"Opportunities of leadership are everywhere. Whether it is a ceremonial rank, captain of a sports team or a School prefect."

Our adventures

Sixth Form students are fortunate to have the opportunity to be involved in numerous trips and expeditions.

To support academic studies in recent years, the School has run a Physics trip to CERN, an Auschwitz history trip, various Photography trips, Biology, Chemistry and Geography field trips, language exchanges, theatre trips, and Sports Science lab-based testing. In addition, the School runs an annual adventurous training camp and regular ski trips.

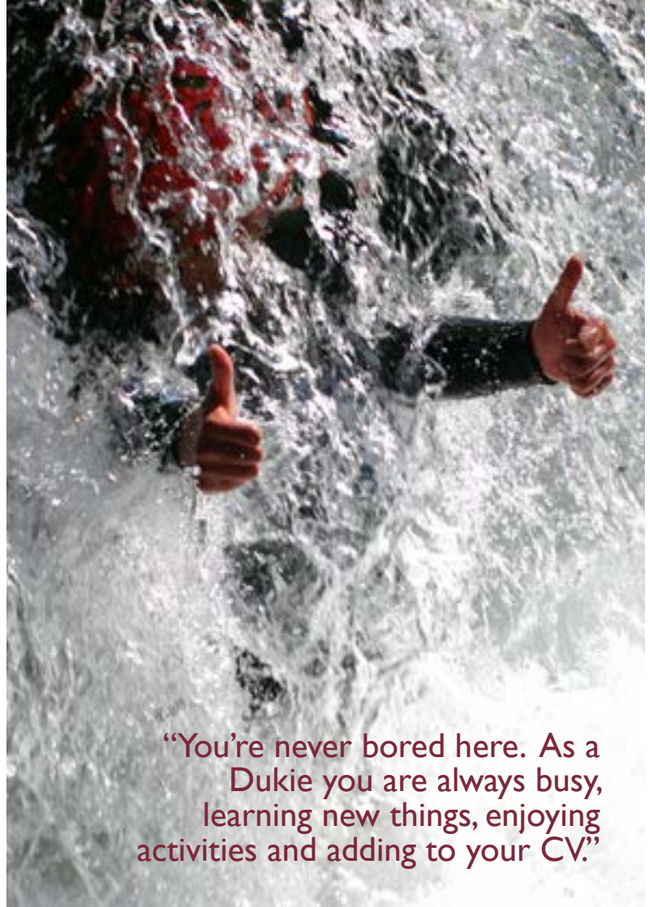
EXPEDITIONS

The School runs a bi-annual expedition during the summer holidays. Recent destinations have included the Himalayas, Nicaragua and Costa Rica. In the summer of 2019, a group of students spent three weeks trekking in India.

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD

Every year there are students who complete the Gold DofE Award. The School offers direct entry into the Gold award, so any Sixth Form student can undertake this challenging and rewarding experience.

Gold participants have the opportunity to become trained ambassadors, helping to develop their own leadership skills by supporting the Bronze and Silver participants in the School.



"You're never bored here. As a Dukie you are always busy, learning new things, enjoying activities and adding to your CV."

"Sport is a great area of School life; I have loved playing for the School, as well as loudly supporting fixtures like rugby."

Sport

Excellence in sport is pursued wholeheartedly but the aim is also to cater for every student, at their own level of ability, and encourage enthusiasm. Our main objective is to instil a life-long love for sport and the values it embodies.

You will be given the opportunity to play competitively at School, with a full fixture list in each of our major sports per term, as well as a healthy Inter-House competition.

With more than 15 sporting disciplines on offer across the year, most students will find themselves involved in physical activity two or three times a week; through expert coaching that comes from dedicated staff, the students flourish as they develop team spirit, camaraderie and self-belief.

Our fantastic sports facilities include high quality grass pitches, a floodlit AstroTurf, floodlit Olympic grade athletics track, indoor heated swimming pool, floodlit netball courts, a large fully equipped sports hall, a climbing wall, The Duke Box (fitness suite), dance studio, outdoor fitness trails and squash courts.

Sport will be an integral part of your life and will play an important role in your personal growth and development.

Mr Dan Quinn
Director of Sport

Music and Performing Arts

MUSIC

The School has four full-time Music staff and eight visiting instrumental teachers. Their wide range of educational experience is enhanced by their professional musical expertise, including careers linked to West End stage productions, the broadcasting and recording industries and the Church. Whatever your musical passion, the Music Department will encourage you to achieve your best in your chosen artistic style. We have a wide range of ensembles of varying sizes that include a variety of choirs, the concert band, big band and a rock and pop band. The School is able to offer instrumental lessons to all students for the majority of woodwind and brass instruments as well as percussion, strings, guitar, voice, piano and organ.

PERFORMING ARTS

The School offers an impressive selection of performing arts clubs and activities, with a range of Music, Dance and Drama events staged throughout the school year. Every February sees the performance of the School musical theatre production, the highlight of the performing arts year, past productions have included Hairspray, The Phantom of the Opera, West Side Story and Sister Act. The School offers free LAMDA acting tuition, and there is also the opportunity to achieve an Arts Award in Music, Dance or Drama. The annual Inter-House Song Competition, which is keenly contested and enjoyed by the whole School, allows many students to experience life on the stage for the first time in an atmosphere of peer support.

"Performing with the choir at 'The Military Awards' in front of Prince Charles will stay with me forever and is something I would never have had a chance to do at another School."

Sixth Form curriculum

At The Duke of York's Royal Military School, students have many options when choosing their Sixth Form curriculum. Most Sixth Formers will take three core A Level or BTEC subjects; they will have five taught periods a week for each. In Year 13, they will also have two hours of directed study a week. In addition to their core subjects, students will also pick one enrichment subject where they will have one taught lesson a week. In their non-contact periods, students will study in the main School teaching buildings and a dedicated Sixth Form Study Centre.

A Levels (Advanced Levels) are subject-based qualifications that can lead to university, further study, training, or work. You can normally study three or more A Levels over two years. All A Level subjects have recently been reformed to a linear style, with examinations taken at the end of two years and little coursework.

BTEC (Business and Technology Education Council) are specialist work-related qualifications which combine practical learning with subject and theory content. Most assessment is project-based with fewer examinations than an A Level. BTEC Level 3 qualifications are equivalent to A Levels and can be studied in combination with them.

ENRICHMENT COURSES

Enrichment is a vital part of a good Sixth Form education and at DOYRMS we have a programme that not only allows a student to extend themselves academically but also gain nationally recognised qualifications which can lead straight into employment. Every Sixth Form student will have the opportunity to take one enrichment course over two years that they can select to best complement their future progression.

EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION (EPQ)

We study the AQA syllabus which requires the student to write either a 5,000-word academic report or create an artefact and a shorter accompanying report on a topic of their choice. It is graded between A*-G and carries staggered UCAS points equivalent to half an A Level. Past EPQs have been completed in a wide variety of topics such as the reformation of Greece after WW2 and how the motor car engine was developed for the Le Mans race in the 1960s. The Extended Project Qualification allows you to show independent academic research skills in a subject that interests you. The skills gained are highly respected by universities, and the EPQ could make up part of your offer for an Undergraduate degree place.

HIGHER SPORTS LEADER

This course is a Level 3 Qualification that focuses on the implementation of sporting activities and includes modules on the legal requirements for health and safety and safeguarding. Students will help organise sporting events in School and also in collaboration with local primary schools.

In addition to completing the HSL qualification, students, by invitation, will be prepared for our rugby performance pathway to Brunel University in conjunction with Ealing Trailfinders Rugby Club.

GOLD DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD

This award develops the skills and attitudes to become rounded, confident young adults, qualities that colleges, universities and employers are attracted to. Students can expect to develop: self-belief and self-confidence, a sense of identity, initiative and a sense of responsibility, a real awareness of strengths, new talents and abilities, the ability to plan and use time effectively, learning from and giving to others in the community, problem solving, presentation and communication skills, leadership and teamworking skills.

LEVEL 3 CERTIFICATE IN FINANCIAL STUDIES

Students that are interested in following accounting and finance courses at university should seriously consider taking this course. Jobs related to this area could include: Chartered accountant , External auditor, Forensic accountant, Stockbroker, Actuary, Arbitrator, Business development manager, Data analyst, Economist, Licensed conveyancer, Management consultant, Mortgage adviser, Procurement manager, Retail banker, Tax adviser. It is an externally examined qualification that holds UCAS points.

AS FURTHER MATHEMATICS

Students that wish to study a maths rich course at some of the top universities would be wise to choose this qualification. Further Mathematics builds on the skills, knowledge and understanding set out in the Maths A level. It relies on the students completing a large volume of independent study. Assessments will be designed to reward students for demonstrating the ability to provide responses that draw together different areas of their knowledge, skills and understanding from across the AS level Further Mathematics qualification and also from the A level Mathematics qualification. Problem solving, proof and mathematical modelling will be measured.

CHEMISTRY, BIOLOGY AND PHYSICS OLYMPIADS

The Olympiads are designed to challenge and inspire those most able scientists through a set of local, regional and national rounds of competition. The competition allows students to excel beyond the A level curriculum testing critical problem-solving skills, promoting creative thinking and testing their knowledge in new and real-world situations. The science department also offer a club to prepare potential medical students for the challenging admissions process.

TEFL

TEFL is widely used to either teach English online in one-to-one or small group scenarios or to teach English abroad and sometimes even used as an easier way to travel. A TEFL course supports the Sixth Form curriculum. It encourages academic skills for independent study, research and thought. TEFL also develops pupils' wider personal skills that allow confident entry into higher education and working life. Students will receive an internationally recognised certificate upon completion.

GOLD ARTS AWARD

The Gold Award is designed to foster in-depth exploration of a particular art form and encourages reflection on practice, progress and impact of practical experience on future pathways. This qualification is designed to be broad and wide-ranging. It can encompass any art form – photography, art, dance, drama, music, technology, engineering, animation, pottery... It will rely on students being independent and will involve teaching new skills as part of the primary school outreach programme.

The Duke Box

Choosing your subjects

When choosing your subjects to study you should answer three important questions to help guide you.

1

Which subjects do I enjoy?

If you enjoy the subject, it stands to reason that you will be more motivated and look forward to lessons and independent study. It is difficult to do well if you find studying both a bore and a chore!

2

Do I possess the necessary skills and abilities to study these subjects at a higher level?

The nature of the work, the style of assessment and the expectation for independent study are all different to GCSE study. So long as you are committed to putting extra work in, and accept that you will find the level of work more challenging, we will fully support you and help you succeed.

3

Which subjects do I need for the future, for university or for my chosen career?

If you have decided what you want to do, you must make sure you study subjects that are needed to progress in this direction. If you do not know which course you want to do at university, you should choose subjects that you enjoy and are likely to do well in, trying to pick a combination of subjects that will not close too many doors for the future.

Subject options

ART AND DESIGN (AQA)

The A Level Fine Art course is aimed at students who wish to move on to creative courses in Further and Higher Education.

Course content

This course provides experience of a wide range of arts media relevant to contemporary arts practice. This includes, but is not limited to: painting, drawing, sculpture, video, photography, digital applications and performance. Students may work in any medium or combination of media. Students will be supported to establish their own practice and carry out an in-depth investigation into concepts and art theory, as well as practice. This will build upon personal investigation that will become the coursework portfolio.

Entry requirements

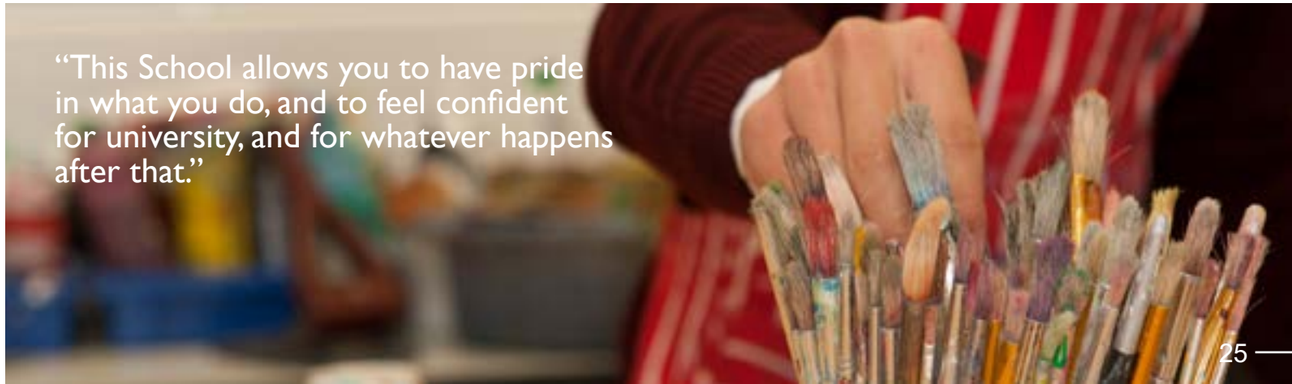
Most students taking an A Level Fine Art course will have been successful at GCSE Art.

Complementary subjects

Art and Design (Photography), Biology, Engineering.

University and Career Links

Students wishing to apply for a creative degree course are expected to complete a foundation course. Many businesses increasingly see the need to enhance the more formal traditional skills with flair and creativity.



BIOLOGY (OCR)

Biology is the study of living things and how they interact with their environment.

Course content
Biology is split into six modules:

Module 1: Development of practical skills in biology
This module underpins the whole of the specification and covers practical skills that students develop throughout the course. Practical skills can be assessed within written examinations and the Practical Endorsement.

Module 2: Foundations in Biology
All living organisms have similarities in cellular structure, biochemistry and function. An understanding of these is fundamental to the study of the subject. Module 2 includes cell structure, biological molecules, nucleotides and nucleic acids, enzymes, biological membranes, cell division, cell diversity and cellular organisation.

Module 3: Exchange and transport
In this module, students study the structure and function of gas exchange and transport systems in a range of animals and in terrestrial plants.

Module 4: Biodiversity, evolution and disease
In this module, students study the biodiversity of organisms; how they are classified and the ways in which biodiversity can be measured. It serves as an introduction to ecology, emphasising practical techniques and an appreciation of the need to maintain biodiversity. Students also gain an understanding of the variety of organisms that are pathogenic and the way in which plants and animals have evolved defences to deal with disease.

Module 5: Communications, homeostasis and energy
Living organisms, both plants and animals, must respond to stimuli, achieved by communication within the body, which may be chemical and or electrical. Both systems are covered in this module, along with studying the biochemical pathways of photosynthesis and respiration.

Module 6: Genetics, evolution and ecosystems
This module covers the role of genes in regulating and controlling cell function and development. Heredity and the mechanisms of evolution and speciation are also covered.

Entry requirements
Students must have studied GCSE Science Trilogy gaining a grade 7, or a grade 7 in Biology GCSE.

Complementary subjects
Biology works well with other science subjects, Geography, Psychology and Mathematics. It has overlapping content with and is often studied alongside Physical Education.

University and career links
As well as preparation for the study of Biology at university, the course provides an excellent grounding for those wanting to move to one of the caring professions, such as medicine, dentistry or nursing or a career working with animals. The course is also of interest to those wishing to work in the field of sport.

BUSINESS (AQA)

The topics studied in Business lend themselves to studying and engaging with the business world and will follow new business developments. The course is designed to encourage students to think critically about contemporary issues. Most of the assessment material will be based on real business situations. There is no coursework involved.

The A Level course will investigate businesses in a variety of contexts (e.g. large / small; UK focused / global; service / manufacturing).

Course content
First year of A Level: What is business? Managers, leadership and decision making. Decision making to improve the performance of marketing / operations / financial / human resources.

Second year of A Level: Analysing the strategic position of a business. Choosing strategic direction. Pursuing strategies. Managing strategic change.

Entry requirements
Students should have at least grade 6 in English and Mathematics. Although Business Studies GCSE is not a requirement, it is useful and the student should have achieved at least a grade 6.

Complementary subjects
There are elements of support for the subject of Business through Sports Studies, Geography, and Computing.

University and career links
Business is an excellent preparation for all business and management related courses at university. Also, Business provides good grounding about the world of work in any discipline.

BUSINESS BTEC EXTENDED CERTIFICATE (EDEXCEL)

(Equivalent to 1 A Level)

The BTEC in Business is perfect for anyone who wants to expand their understanding of finance and marketing within the dynamic world of Business. The qualification takes a unit-by-unit approach and offers a combination of assessment styles including written examinations and coursework. This gives students the opportunity to showcase their skills and apply their knowledge in an appropriate, work-related context, and provides evidence of what they can do when they apply to enter Higher Education or employment.

Course content

The qualification is designed by industry professionals to develop the key skills of cognitive and problem-solving, intrapersonal skills and interpersonal skills.

Students will complete four units of study over two years. There are three compulsory modules which introduce students to business environments, finance and marketing.

Students will also complete one optional module from a choice of market research, the English legal system, recruitment and selection procedure, and investigating market research. Students will be assessed in two ways in the Business BTEC – an examination where all students will take a formal written assessment at the same time and set tasks which students will complete throughout the course with defined deadlines.

Entry requirements

Business Studies GCSE is not a requirement although it would be good preparation for the course.

CHEMISTRY (AQA)

All classes are taught in fully equipped laboratories which allow for a balance of theory and practical work to be taught. The course develops an excellent understanding of concepts, how Chemistry is relevant to everyday life and embeds the strong practical skills required by those studying Sciences.

Course content

Year 1: The course is based on the three disciplines within Chemistry: physical, organic and inorganic. The subjects studied will include the foundations of atomic structure, quantitative Chemistry, energetics, kinetics and organics.

Year 2: Knowledge is extended through topics including thermodynamics, rate expressions, transition metal Chemistry and equilibria. Further topics including a knowledge of how medicines are developed and can target DNA. There are key practical lessons in this course and evidence of completion will result in an extra endorsement of practical skills appearing on the final A Level certificate.

Assessment is linear with three examinations being taken in Year 13. All examinations are two hours; paper 1 inorganic and physical Chemistry is weighted at 35%, paper 2 organic and physical Chemistry is equally weighted and paper 3 is a synoptic and practical skills paper weighted at 30%.

Entry requirements

Students must have studied science trilogy gaining a grade 7 or a grade 7 in Chemistry GCSE. Students will also need a grade 6 or above in Mathematics.

Complementary subjects

Chemistry links well with a variety of other subjects including Physics, Maths, Biology and Geography.

BTEC LEVEL 3 CERTIFICATE IN COMPUTER SCIENCE

(Equivalent to 1 A Level)

Computer Science is a growth area that affects every part of our lives. This course provides opportunities for students to further develop their skills and understanding to enter this rapidly expanding field.

Course content

This is a two year course, equivalent to one A Level, covering two examined units: one mandatory coursework unit and one optional unit. The course covers key areas in computational hardware, software, networking, and programming techniques to give a thorough grounding for students that want to progress to higher education or industry. The optional unit allows students to tailor this section of the course to their own interests and popular choices are Computer Games Development and Mobile Apps Development. Depending on students' prior knowledge, a variety of opportunities are provided for studying the Python, Java, and C programming languages. Students are provided with a dedicated area in the school where they can experiment with server and networking technologies.

Entry requirements

You do not need to have studied Computing before; however, a knowledge of programming is preferable. People who do well at computing tend to be resilient and numerate with reasonable problem solving skills.

University and career links

The many career possibilities that are available to you include Computing, analysis, computer programming and animation amongst others.

DRAMA AND THEATRE (AQA)

The A Level in Drama and Theatre enables students to develop an in-depth knowledge and understanding of performance texts, practitioners and techniques. The course emphasises practical creativity alongside research and theoretical understanding. Students are introduced to a wide range of theatrical styles and contexts through both the study of existing repertoire and the development of original performance material.

Course content

The subject content is divided into three components, all of which are assessed in the second year of the course. For each element of the course students can contribute as a performer, director or designer. Students study two set plays from the perspective of live theatre makers, they will develop their own performance or design skills through the exploration of three contrasting plays and will engage in the creative process through the development of original performance material.

Entry Requirements

A GCSE or BTEC qualification in Drama, or previous experience in the performing arts, such as LAMDA or Stagecoach, is recommended for those applying for this course.

Complementary subjects

The A Level Drama course explores many social, moral, historical and political contexts through a range of theatrical texts and is therefore an excellent subject to study in combination with humanities subjects such as History, English, RE and Psychology, as well as with other performing arts subjects such as Music and Dance. Drama also complements the study of STEM subjects through the development of research techniques, problem solving strategies and creative skills.

University and career links

Drama is a classic subject highly regarded by universities. The course develops students' analytical and evaluation skills and teaches confident presentation, public speaking, physical control, voice skills and self-expression. The course provides excellent grounding for further study in Law, Education, Philosophy, Theology, Business, Medicine or Politics at university level.

Drama students go on to a wide range of careers including events management, acting, law, marketing, business management, teaching, drama therapy, media, arts administration and medicine.

"The School is so invested in helping us reach our life goals, either through University, apprenticeships or training."

BTEC LEVEL 3 NATIONAL DIPLOMA IN ENGINEERING (EDEXCEL)

(Equivalent to 2 A Levels)

We pride ourselves on delivering the most relevant engineering skills for evolving industry and have established ties with international companies to enable students to apply their skills to real engineering problems. We promote diversity in Engineering and we are proud of our 'connected-curriculum' to support women in engineering. The latest student leavers' destinations include Amazon, engineering roles in the Armed Forces and established UK universities for Engineering.

Course Content

This is a two year course delivered by specialist teachers with industrial experience of engineering specialisms. The mandatory units of study include: Engineering Principles, Engineering Processes, Health and Safety, alongside Product Design and Manufacture. The optional units are research-based studies including, but not limited to Further Engineering Mathematics, Printed Circuit Board Design and Manufacture, CAD, Secondary Manufacture Processes, Static or Dynamic Mechanics. The Engineering Principles unit expects students to have a good knowledge of Mathematics and Physics, whilst the design and practical units rely on students having studied Product Design / Resistant Materials at GCSE.

A combination of assessment styles allow students to showcase their knowledge through externally assessed exams and product tasks, plus internally assessed assignments, presentations and practical work.

Entry requirements

Grade 6 or above in Design and Technology and Grade 5 or above in Science.

ENGLISH LITERATURE (AQA)

English Literature is one of the staples of A Level study at the School, and its record for excellent outcomes is well noted. English Literature more broadly offers a basis for developing skills of argument, critical thinking, effective communication, and crafting a well-rounded and holistic understanding of the world.

Course content
In the first year, students will study texts from the 'Love Through the Ages' paper. This involves a initial study of Shakespeare's Othello, with a comparative study of The Great Gatsby, alongside an anthology of pre-1900 poetry, in the second half of the year. These components are complemented by a wide range of additional reading and literary theory, as shaped by the expertise and varied tastes of the English department. In this year, students will also be guided as they formulate their non-exam assessment (NEA) coursework – based on two individually selected texts.

In the second year, students will encounter a range of texts exploring World War One and its aftermath. The texts studied include Brian Gardner's anthology of First World War soldier poets, Up the Line to Death, which provides the core element, alongside the novel Life Class by Pat Barker, and an adaptation of David Haig's play My Boy Jack, based on the life of John 'Jack' Kipling.

Further information
Extracurricular activities for English A Level have ranged from attending theatre performances, to the First World War battlefields of Northern France and Belgium – to develop contextual understanding of the texts studied – through to external visits from specialist humanities lecturers, through our links with the University of Kent.

Entry requirements
English Literature is a flexible and widely compatible post-16 subject. Students are required to engage with texts independently and so must enjoy reading.

Complementary subjects
English Literature is amongst the most flexible and widely compatible of post-16 subjects. The ability to write clearly and concisely, read critically, and communicate effectively, benefits students of all subjects.

Literature is also recognised as valuable in preparation for careers more associated with Sciences, including Medicine and Veterinary Science.

University and career links
Destinations and outcomes for students taking English are strong, and have included but are not limited to, careers and further study in Law, Journalism, Teaching, Media, and Digital Communications.

FRENCH / SPANISH (EDEXCEL)

The ability to communicate in languages other than English opens up exciting opportunities in all walks of life.

Course content
The changes in French/ Spanish society:
The changing state of family, the world of work, tourism, and education.

Artistic and political culture in French/ Spanish speaking countries:
Music, media, and festivals.

Immigration and multicultural society: The positive contributions of immigration, the challenges to immigration and public opinion.

History and politics: The French Occupation and Resistance/ the Franco dictatorship and transition to democracy.

Students study two books or one book and one film for A Level. They must also conduct individual research on a subject of personal interest, relating to the country where the target language is spoken.

Further information
A Level French pupils visit Paris and A Level Spanish pupils visit Seville. They go to speaking classes and visit places of interest that are relevant to the specification.

Entry requirements
A GCSE pass at a minimum grade 6 in the appropriate language is required.

University and career links
There is a shortage of linguists in the UK, therefore they are highly sought after by many businesses and institutions. An increasing number of universities provide the opportunity to continue studying a foreign language alongside a main course. Languages are used in a variety of careers including tourism, translation, diplomacy, civil service, international affairs and commerce.

GEOGRAPHY (AQA)

Geography's balance between humanities and sciences makes it a strong A-level subject that is extremely valuable regardless of what students decide to go on and study. The course looks at the interaction between the humans and physical environment and encourages students to understand their own lives in a global context.

Course content
In the first year of the A Level course, topics such as the water cycle, coastal environments, global changing places and contemporary urban environments are studied. In the second year, topics such as hazards and global governance are studied. An independent fieldwork investigation is completed that is a requirement of the course and is worth 20% of the overall marks. The course includes 4 days of compulsory fieldwork that is delivered by experienced staff and supports the students in their independent investigation.

Entry requirements
A grade 6 or above at GCSE Geography is preferred, but a genuine interest in the subject is the main entry criteria.

Complementary subjects
Geography can be seen as a science or humanities subject and uses skills from several disciplines. It combines well with English and Business as well as Mathematics and the Sciences.

University and career links
Geography provides an excellent grounding for careers including conservation, planning, leisure and tourism and environmental consultancy as well as jobs in the media, teaching and civil service.

HISTORY (AQA)

History is a well-respected academic qualification which develops the powers of enquiry and argument.

Course content
History A Level students examine key political, social and economic developments in Germany, 1870 - 1991, as well as early modern British history through considering religious change under the Tudors. Students also have an NEA to complete, which is based on British involvement in Northern Ireland and must reference the past 100 years of history within the region. All of the units are examined in the summer of Year 13.

Entry requirements
Previous study of History, although desired, is not essential. Students are expected to have achieved at least a grade 6 in GCSE History or English Language.

University and career links
History students' progress to Higher Education courses in History, Law, Politics and Economics.

"It's a School that everyone wants to be a part of. A community in which every single student can feel comfortable."

MATHEMATICS (EDEXCEL)

Mathematics is a creative discipline; its language is international, transcends cultural boundaries and its importance is universally recognised.

Course content
A Level Mathematics covers Pure Mathematics and two applications, mechanics and statistics. The Pure content is two thirds of the course and is examined alongside the applications.

Pure Mathematics is split into various topics. The emphasis is on problem solving which requires multi-topic knowledge. Topics are algebra, proof, coordinate geometry, sequences and series, trigonometry, exponentials and logarithms, differentiation, integration and numerical methods.

Content of the applications is mechanics (vectors, quantities and units in mechanics, kinematics, forces and Newton's laws and moments), statistics (statistical sampling, data presentation and interpretation, probability, statistical distributions and hypothesis testing).

Entry requirements
Students should have gained at least grade 7 at GCSE Mathematics.

Complementary subjects
Mathematics combines especially well with Physics, Chemistry, Business, Design and Technology and Computing.

University and career links
A Level Mathematics is highly regarded by employers and universities because of the demands it makes and the skills it develops.

Degrees in Engineering, Physics, Chemistry, Economics, Accounting and Actuarial Science will require a good grade in A Level Mathematics.

MUSIC (EDUQAS)

The A Level in Music requires students to develop an in-depth knowledge and understanding of musical elements, musical contexts, and musical language. It allows students to apply these, where appropriate, to their own work when performing and composing.

Course content
The course contains three key components and three areas of study. The areas of study provide an over-arching framework within which links between units may be developed.

The areas of study are The Western Classical Tradition (The Development of the Symphony), Rock and Pop, and Into the Twentieth Century.

The key components are performing (35% or 25%), composing (35% or 25%), appraising (40%).

Entry requirements
A minimum GCSE Music grade 6 and grade 5 standard on any instrument. You must be willing to have instrumental lessons with our tutors, preparing for performances.

University and career links
The course provides excellent grounding for careers in performing, composing, conducting, teaching, music therapy and arts administration. Being a musician isn't the only career in music –The creative industries might include work in film, TV, theatre, radio, and arts administration. Music is highly regarded as an academic subject by universities and so, could complement your other studies in leading to a professional career such as medicine, law and accountancy.

PHOTOGRAPHY (AQA)

Photography is a means of communicating in a visual way. It can challenge the way we think about the world.

The course encourages the development of skills and ideas to produce a creative, mature and technically proficient body of work showing personal commitment, flair and individuality.

The coursework allows students to develop a personal practical project with preparatory studies leading to finished work, producing contextual studies which relate personal work to other photographers / photographic issues using visual and written elements.

Further information
Students are recommended to buy a traditional DSLR camera for use on this course.

Entry requirements
Most students taking an A Level Photography course will have been successful at GCSE Photography.

Complementary subjects
Art and Design (Fine Art), Science, English or Modern Languages.

University and career links
Studying Photography can lead to photographic careers in areas such as fashion, advertising, sports, media, fine art, forensic, graphic design, animation, film and television.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION (OCR)

The course is based on the interaction between the theory and practice of Physical Education.

Course content
The content has been designed to allow students to study Physical Education (PE) in an academic setting, enabling them to critically analyse and evaluate their physical performance and apply their experience of practical activity in developing their knowledge and understanding of the subject.

A Level Physical Education covers physiological factors affecting performance, applied anatomy and physiology, exercise physiology and biomechanics. Psychological factors affecting performance includes skill acquisition and sports psychology.

Socio-cultural issues in physical activity and sport includes contemporary issues in sport and society. Students can be assessed in the role of performer or coach in one activity and also are required to provide an oral response analysing and critically evaluating their peers' performance.

Entry requirements
It is expected that students will have studied Physical Education before, though this is not essential.

Complementary subjects
Physical Education links well to both the sciences and humanities.

University and career links
This course will prepare students for the further study of PE or Sports Science courses as well as other related subject areas such as Psychology, Sociology and Biology. Students will also develop the transferable skills that are in demand by Further Education, Higher Education and employers in all sectors of industry.

PHYSICS (AQA)

Physics is a science which seeks to explain the phenomena we observe all around us in the physical world.

Course content
Unit 1: Matter and radiation, quarks and leptons, quantum phenomena, electric current, direct current, and alternating current.

Unit 2: Forces in equilibrium, acceleration and projectile motion, motion and force, work, energy and power, material analysis, waves, and optics.

Unit 3: Practical skills assessment.

Unit 4: Force and momentum, circular motion, simple harmonic motion, gravitational fields, electric fields, capacitors, magnetic fields, and electromagnetic induction.

Unit 5: Radioactivity, nuclear energy, thermal Physics, and gases.

The optional topic we will be studying is the Astrophysics unit. In this topic we cover how different types of telescopes work and are used in modern space observations, classification of star types, black holes and how new planets are discovered.

Unit 6: Practical skills assessment.

Entry requirements
Students must have studied Science trilogy gaining a grade 7 or at least a grade 7 in Physics GCSE. Students will also need a grade 6 or above in Mathematics.

Complementary subjects
Physics works well with Mathematics, Chemistry, Biology, Physical Education and Geography.

University and career links
From plumbing to forensic science to engineering, the principles of Physics should prove advantageous in a wide range of professions. Physics A Level is usually a requirement for any science-based course at university.

"Sixth Form has provided me with a community and environment in which I feel I can totally thrive. This is especially important in the outside world as the drive which Dukie Sixth Form fosters, serves you well when looking to make a name for yourself in the world of work."

PRODUCT DESIGN - DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY (AQA)

The examination is a natural extension to GCSE Design and Technology courses, offering students the opportunity to develop their interest, knowledge and understanding of design and its technological application.

Course content
The course is taught through a number of design experiences, leading all candidates to create their own portfolio of work for assessment. Their understanding of materials and components will be developed through their coursework in unit 2.

Entry requirements
A grade 5 or above in Design and Technology.

Complementary subjects
Because of the very nature of Product Design it is able to fit in well with many subjects whether they are from the more creative areas such as Art or from those of Physics and Mathematics with others such as Computing and Business also being complementary.

University and career links
Many students who have studied Product Design have found that it has enabled them to enter differing fields of Design from Product Design to Engineering at a number of universities.

PSYCHOLOGY (OCR)

This OCR led course is two years long and assessed by three 2 hour examinations at the end of Year 13.

Course content
The three components of the course are research methods, psychological themes through core studies, and applied Psychology (specifically issues in mental health, child Psychology, and criminal Psychology).

Component 1 requires students to study four key psychological investigatory methods, experiment, observation, self-report and correlation. This component also requires students to be able to plan and conduct their own research, record data and analyse data, along with the presentation of results through report writing and an understanding of science in Psychology.

Component 2 will assess students' knowledge and understanding of five key psychological approaches – social, cognitive, developmental, biological, and individual differences (including a classic and contemporary study). In addition, students will focus on two key perspectives – behaviourist and psychodynamic. Finally, students will need to define key principles and concepts of a range of debates (nature /nurture, freewill / determinism, reductionism / holism) and Psychology as a science.

Component 3 requires students to follow one compulsory topic of issues in mental health, along with two options of child Psychology and criminal Psychology. Each of the three topics requires students to explain and exemplify the background and consider relevant issues and debates, along with key research, and their application.

Entry Requirements
GCSE passes are needed at grade 6 or above in both English and Mathematics.

Complementary subjects
Psychology works well with other science subjects as it involves the understanding and application of scientific methods when assessing human behaviour. The course seeks to explain why humans behave the way they do and it combines well with subjects such as History and Philosophy, Religion and Ethics. The course can also help when looking at the psychological components in Business and PE / Sport.

University and Career Links
As well as preparation for the study of Psychology at university, the course provides an excellent grounding for those wanting to move to one of the caring professions, such as nursing or medicine, or an area involving an aspect of working with people such as the police, management or human resources.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES (AQA)

In this course we tackle the biggest questions ever asked. Does God exist? How should I live my life? Are we free?

Along the way we consider whether science and religion are compatible, whether we can ever trust someone who claims to have seen a miracle, and why religion is declining in the UK but booming elsewhere.

This course is not 'Religious Studies' as you might have known it before. We will be picking arguments with some of the greatest minds in human history, including Plato, Descartes and Hume.

You will grow your reading, writing and analytical skills, and enjoy plenty of spirited class debate.

Course content
This is a linear qualification: it is assessed at the end of the two year course by two three hour written examinations.

The first examination is worth 50% of the A Level, and covers philosophy of religion, and ethics and religion.

The second examination is also worth 50% of the A Level, and covers the study of religion, and dialogues between philosophy, ethics and religion.

Entry requirements
This is an academic, essay-based subject. Students should have at least a grade 6 in GCSE English but do not need to have taken Religious Studies at GCSE.

Complementary subjects
Since we are dealing with big ideas, this course naturally complements humanities subjects such as History, English and Psychology.

It also offers a rewarding contrast to the Sciences and Mathematics.

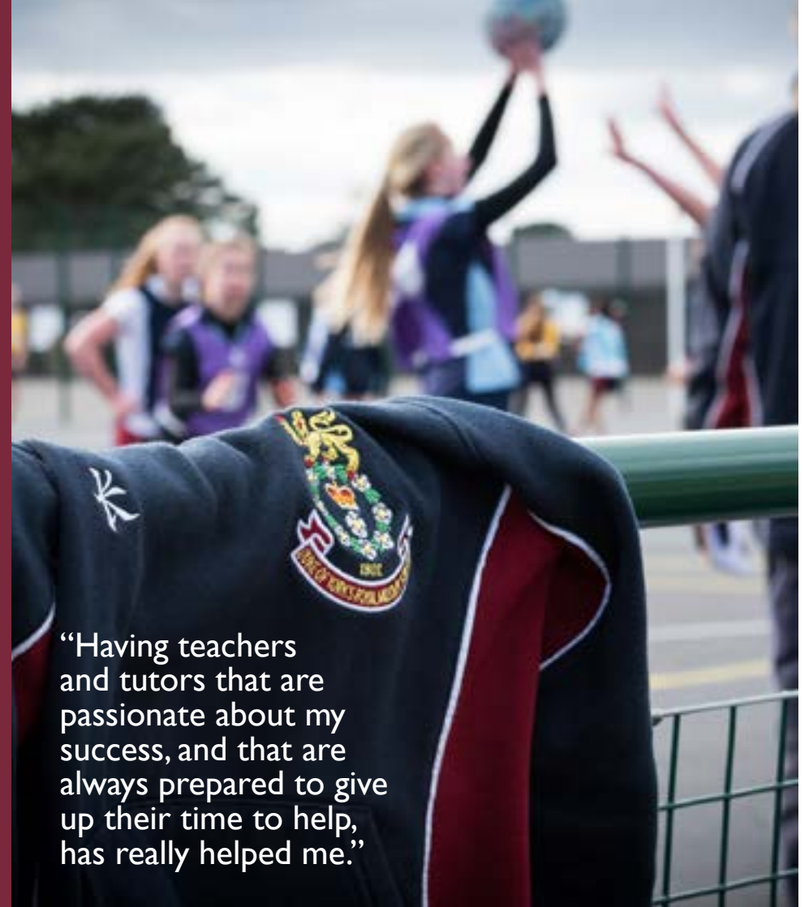
University and career links
This course is well respected by universities. Students will develop crucial skills in reading and analysing complex arguments, writing to persuade, and reasoning clearly and critically.

Students can also develop their public speaking and debating skills through class discussion and presentations.

The knowledge gained is especially useful for those studying Philosophy, Theology, Law or Politics at university level.

The skills gained are also good preparation for proceeding to History, English Literature and other Humanities subjects.

The ethical issues considered are highly relevant for those considering service in the Armed Forces, medicine, nursing, or social work.



SPORT - BTEC (EDEXCEL)

(Equivalent to 2 A Levels)

BTEC is a more practical, work-related qualification providing a real world approach to learning. BTEC Sport is designed to give students a grounding in the sport and active leisure sector.

Course content
Those taking the course will select from a range of units to build a portfolio of evidence allowing them to gain the overall qualification.

The units covered will develop from the interests of those on the course and may cover areas such as principles of anatomy and physiology in Sport, the physiology of fitness, fitness training and programming, sports nutrition, instructing physical activity and exercise, the athlete's lifestyle and current issues in Sport.

Complementary subjects
BTEC Sport combines well with a range of subjects, including Biology and other Sciences.

University and career links
The BTEC will help contribute to entry for a range of university courses. It is particularly well suited for those who plan to pursue a career in the areas of sport and leisure.

How to apply

To apply for a Sixth Form place, please visit **www.doyrms.com** and complete the admissions enquiry form, or email the School Registrar directly at **admissions@doyrms.com** to receive an application form and information pack to complete.

Important information

1. To enter Year 12, you will need a minimum of two GCSEs at grade 5 and four at grade 6, including English and Mathematics. You should have at least GCSE grade 6 in the subjects you intend to take in the Sixth Form, or in allied subjects as detailed above.

2. Usually you will study three subjects. Sometimes individual students may be able to negotiate a programme which will consist of four subjects.

3. We listen to our students' ideas for additional subjects, and we will be as flexible as our timetable allows. Please talk to the Head of Sixth Form.

4. Members of Sixth Form have an important part to play in maintaining the character and ethos of our School.

5. The Duke of York's Royal Military School relies on every member of the Sixth Form to set high standards of personal behaviour, organisation and example to our younger students. If you are offered a place, we ask you to help maintain and enhance the good name of our School by your actions.

6. Prospective Sixth Formers and their parents should understand that academic underperformance may result in individuals being removed from a subject or from the overall course of study. In some cases this may result in students not being entered for public examinations or repeating a year with a modified course.

Availability of courses

1. The curriculum is constantly evolving and if there is sufficient demand, we will put on additional subjects.

The Principal may withdraw subject options which do not attract viable numbers of candidates, or which result in staffing permutations that cannot be achieved within staff numbers and qualifications. Additionally, if demand for a subject is beyond the number that can be taught in one set it may be necessary, for staffing reasons, to limit numbers in which case the School will select those who are to be offered places for that subject.

2. The blocking of subjects for timetabling purposes is dependant, to a large extent, upon student choices. The intention is to be as flexible as possible with subject combinations, but timetabling constraints may make some subject combinations impossible.

Inevitably, a small number of potential Sixth Form students may not be able to follow their preferred combinations of subjects. Each student will be required to opt for four subjects to allow option blocks to be created.

3. The importance of good passes in GCSE English and Mathematics cannot be overemphasised and, as a consequence, the School insists that any Sixth Former who has achieved anything less than a grade 4 in those subjects re-sit the examination at the earliest opportunity.

Additional tuition will be provided to prepare students for these re-sit examinations.

However, please note it is School policy to charge the entrance fee for such examinations against the individual's School account.

4. Unless otherwise recommended by the School, candidates will be offered the first three preferences.

Any subsequent change to these preferred subjects can only be made within the constraints imposed by the timetabled blocks.

5. A number of the subjects available in the Sixth Form provide opportunities for fieldwork or exchanges.

In particular, modern linguists enjoy the benefits of periods of time on the Continent, living and working with their foreign counterparts.

Biologists and Geographers may also benefit from fieldwork exercises. Art, Business Studies, Computing, Drama, History, Religious Studies and Technology courses may require day visits to outside locations.

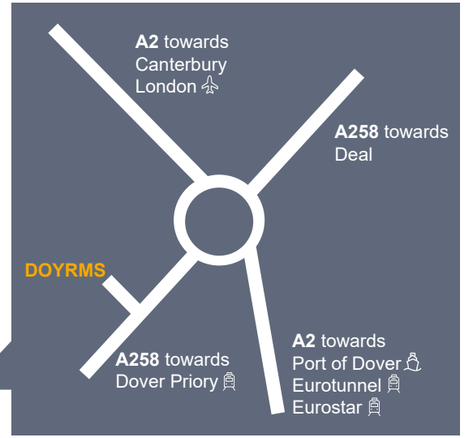
6. Sixth Form groups in English and Performing Arts may be expected to attend theatre trips which are organised to support the study of literary works.

Academic Scholarships

The school offer 80% academic scholarships to students that gain at least 8 GCSE passes including English and Mathematics, with grade 8 or above in at least three GCSEs and grade 7 or above in a further three GCSEs. All scholarship candidates must be able to demonstrate an excellent behaviour record.

How to find us

The Duke of York's Royal Military School is set within 150 acres of countryside. Located near Dover, the school is close to major road links, Dover ferry port offering crossings to Calais and Dunkirk, Eurotunnel and Eurostar offering trains to Paris, Brussels and Amsterdam as well as a high-speed rail route to London.



Sixth Form Prospectus produced by DOYRMS Marketing Team
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Ministry of Defence

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