2025 - 26

POST 16

OPTIONS BOOKLET

STAR International School Al Twar

iSP International Schools Partnership

Guiding Stars to Bright Futures

WELCOME
MESSAGE

Mrs. Lisa Passante

Principal

Dear students,

As you prepare to make one of the most exciting decisions in your academic journey, this Options Booklet is designed to guide you through the wide range of subjects available for your A Level and BTEC studies. Whether you are passionate about the arts, intrigued by the sciences, or excited by the challenges of humanities and maths, this booklet will provide you with essential information to help you make informed choices that align with your interests, skills, and future aspirations.

Choosing the right subjects is an important step that will shape your educational path and open doors to various opportunities. As you review the subjects offered, think about your strengths, your passions, and the qualifications you need for the future you envision. This is a chance to explore new areas of knowledge and deepen your understanding in subjects you already love.

We encourage you to take your time in considering all options and seek guidance from your teachers, parents, and peers to ensure you make the best decision for your personal and academic growth. We look forward to supporting you through this exciting stage in your education and wish you the best of luck as you embark on this new chapter!

Best wishes,
Lisa Passante

MESSAGE FROM THE

HEAD OF SECONDARY

Mr. David Gill

Head of Secondary

Dear students,

A warm welcome to our new and existing students who are choosing to progress into our Post 16 provision at Star International School, Al Twar.

We are excited to guide you through the final two years of your secondary education, in which we hope you continue to grow and develop whilst learning more about the subjects you enjoy.

You will find a range of subjects on offer that should meet your needs and interests and enable you to access the higher education and the career choices that you desire.

All subjects at Key Stage 5 are taught by highly qualified subject specialists, with extensive knowledge in their area and outstanding teaching practice. This ensures all our students make better than expected progress and achieve their full potential.

You will receive extensive support and guidance to help you manage your studies over the next two years and we will help you decide on what you want to do next after your Year 13 studies are complete. We are very proud of our record of student attainment at Post-16 and many of our students have left Star Al Twar and gone into further education at universities around the world. We will support you in selecting the right subjects to ensure you can access your desired university course and pursue your chosen career.

Best wishes,
David Gill

A LEVELS

ADVANCED LEVEL QUALIFICATIONS

What are A Level Subjects?

Advanced level qualifications (known as A 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. They're usually assessed by a series of examinations.

Why Choose A Level Subjects?

A Level subjects are an effective way to start developing expert knowledge within a given subject. Students will learn more complex concepts relating to each field of study and further develop their critical thinking skills throughout the course of study.

Many universities require students to achieve three A Level qualifications (or alternative level 3 qualifications such as BTEC level 3) in order to access degree based programmes.

Choosing A Level Subjects

The most important criteria for choosing A-level subjects are:

1. Looking at what you are likely to enjoy and be good at. If you enjoy a subject or have an ability in it already, you are more likely to do well.
2. Are there any particular subjects and/or grades you may need? If you have a particular career, job, or further study in mind, you may need to choose specific A Levels in order to meet entry requirements.
3. How open do you want to keep your future study and career choices?

BTEC LEVEL 3

QUALIFICATIONS

BTEC Level 3 qualifications offer an excellent alternative to traditional A Levels and carry A Level equivalence. Many students in the UAE have gone on to access studies in a range of disciplines using their BTEC qualification but it is important to research pathways thoroughly before selecting a course of study whether A Level or BTEC.

Learning is directed towards a particular vocational area but the skills learned are transferable and highly valued by employers and educational institutions worldwide. It is now widely acknowledged that the job market is changing rapidly and whilst knowledge is important, enterprising skills such as adaptability, creative thinking and decision making are highly sought after skills.

Students work on assignments, both individually and in groups, such as a group event or manager-employee role-play. BTEC courses provide opportunities for students to gather evidence in a wide variety of ways other than written text, e.g. film clips, project proposals, business plans and training booklets. Most assignments will also be linked to the real workplace through visits or visiting speakers. Clear guidelines are given on what students have to achieve and how they can do this. Students will have to meet deadlines set by teachers but can do this at their own pace rather than having to perform to the time constraints of an exam. The progress of individuals is monitored by teachers who provide personal support and guidance, helping students develop their learning skills and to reach their full potential. Students get to learn progressively starting from small-scale and simple topics, progressing to larger more complex themes.

The course is assessed by coursework and in some cases an element of examination and students may achieve a Pass, Merit or Distinction. BTECs offer active learning in a vocational context that, in turn, builds students' confidence, competence and motivation.

ADVICE TO STUDENTS

Advice to Students When Selecting their Subjects

- Before you consider which subjects to select, research a range of university and career options so that the subjects you select satisfy the entry requirements.
- Use https://www.careerpilot.org.uk/ to help you identify the pathway required to your chosen university or career.
- Think about which subjects are prerequisites for further study or your career path.
- Ensure that you have the correct number and combination of A level or BTEC subjects to satisfy any university or career requirements prior to application.
- Think about which subjects you enjoy now but also consider new subjects you haven't experienced before but which sound interesting.
- Prioritise your subjects in order of interest and value to you.
- Decide how you are going to organise your subjects across the two years.
- By getting the best grades possible at IGCSE or BTEC Level 2 you will ensure you have a wide range of options available at Post 16.

Students may choose a combination of both A Levels with BTEC provided they meet the entry criteria of the relevant subjects.

SELECTING OPTIONS

At Star Al Twar we allow students to select a bespoke combination of 3 subjects, with 1 subject in reserve if those 3 subjects are not possible to facilitate in our timetable.

Compulsory subjects:

Arabic A (for Arab students) – not examined
Islamic Studies (for Muslim students) – not examined
Moral Education (for Arab students) – not examined
Core PE – not examined

Optional subjects:

Art and Design
Biology
BTEC Business
BTEC IT
BTEC Sport
Business
Chemistry
Computer Science
Design and Technology
English Literature
Geography
History
IT
Mathematics
Physics

Subject combinations that are not permitted:
BTEC IT with A Level IT or A Level Computer Science
Business BTEC with A Level Business

Entry Requirements:

- Students are expected to achieve a minimum of five GCSEs at grade 5 or above, two of which must be in Mathematics and English.
- Ideally students should achieve a grade 7 or above in the subjects they are wishing to select at A Level in order to be successful.
- All students will be invited to speak with the Head of Secondary and/or Post-16 Leader to discuss their options at A Level and BTEC.

ART AND DESIGN

Course: A levels **Exam Board:** Cambridge

FUTURE CAREER

Fine Artist

Curator

Arts Writer

Interior Design & Architecture

Games Designer

Art Consultant Illustrator

Animator

COURSE OVERVIEW

This course encourages students to develop their creative skills and express themselves through a variety of artistic mediums. This course covers a wide range of topics, including drawing, painting, sculpture, printmaking, and digital media, allowing students to explore both traditional and contemporary techniques. Emphasising the development of individual artistic style and creativity, students will engage in research, experimentation, and the production of a portfolio of work. The course also encourages critical analysis and reflection on their own work, as well as the works of others. By the end of the course, students will have honed their technical abilities and conceptual understanding, preparing them for further education in art, design, and related creative fields.

COURSE CONTENT

The four areas of study are listed below:

Fine art

Candidates may focus on one or combine several of the following:
Painting | sculpture | print making | experimental – assemblage/construction | drawing | photography | mixed media

Graphic communication

Candidates may focus on one or combine several of the following:
Illustration | packaging design | advertising | typography | print making | branding | signage

Three-dimensional design

Candidates may focus on one or combine several of the following:
Sculpture, ceramics | interior and exterior architecture | environmental design | jewellery and fashion accessories | product design | interior design | set design

Textiles and fashion

Candidates may focus on one or combine several of the following:
Fashion design and/or illustration | constructed textiles | batik | surface pattern | costume design | screen printing | digital-printed textiles

ART AND DESIGN

Course: A levels **Exam Board:** Cambridge

FUTURE CAREER

Fine Artist

Curator

Arts Writer

Interior Design & Architecture

Games Designer

Art Consultant Illustrator

Animator

ASSESSMENT

All candidates take 2 components

Component 1
Coursework 100 marks
Candidates research, develop and realise a project from one area of study in the syllabus content.

There are two parts to the coursework:
- a portfolio and
- a final outcome.

Externally assessed
- 50% of the AS Level
- 25% of the A Level

Component 2
Externally Set Assignment - 15 hours (100 marks)
Candidates choose one starting point to develop into a personal response.

There are two parts to the assignment:
- supporting studies, created during the preparation period and
- a final outcome, produced during a supervised test of 15 hours' total duration.

Externally assessed
- 50% of the AS Level
- 25% of the A Level

Component 3:
Personal Investigation 100 marks (weighted to 200 marks)
Candidates investigate a theme, idea, concept or process that is personal to them.

There are two parts to the investigation:
- practical work and
- written analysis (1000–1500 words).

ART AND DESIGN

Course: A level **Exam Board:** Cambridge

ASSESSMENT

The practical work and written analysis must form an integrated submission.

- Externally assessed
- 50% of the A Level

FUTURE CAREER

Fine Artist

Curator

Arts Writer

Interior Design & Architecture

Games Designer

Art Consultant Illustrator

Animator

Link to Exam Specification: Art and Design

STUDENT QUOTE

I have loved studying A-Level Art and Design at Star International School, Al Twar. The supportive teachers and creative environment have helped me grow my skills and confidence. I have learned to experiment, think critically, and express my ideas through art. It has been an inspiring and rewarding experience.

BIOLOGY

Course: A level **Exam Board:** Pearson Edexcel

FUTURE CAREER

Doctor

Nurse

Pharmacist

Dentist

Biomedical Scientist

Microbiologist

Ecologist

Biotechnologist

Physiotherapist

COURSE OVERVIEW

This course provides students with a thorough understanding of the principles and concepts in biology. The course covers key topics such as cell biology, genetics, evolution, ecology, human physiology, and biochemistry. Students will develop both theoretical knowledge and practical laboratory skills, applying scientific methods to investigate biological processes. Emphasis is placed on critical thinking, data analysis, and the application of biological knowledge to real-world issues. By the end of the course, students will have a solid foundation in biology, preparing them for further studies in fields such as medicine, biotechnology, environmental science, and other science-based disciplines.

COURSE CONTENT

This qualification consists of six externally examined units.

Unit 1: Molecules, Diet, Transport and Health

- Molecules, Transport and Health
- Membranes, Proteins, DNA and Gene Expression

Unit 2: Cells, Development, Biodiversity and Conservation

- Cell Structure, Reproduction and Development
- Plant Structure and Function, Biodiversity and Conservation

Unit 3: Practical Skills in Biology I

Students are expected to develop experimental skills, and a knowledge and understanding of experimental techniques, by carrying out a range of practical experiments and investigations while they study units 1 and 2.
This unit will assess students' knowledge and understanding of experimental procedures and techniques that were developed in units 1 and 2.

Unit 4: Energy, Environment, Microbiology and Immunity

- Energy Flow, Ecosystems and the Environment
- Microbiology, Immunity and Forensics

Unit 5: Respiration, Internal Environment, Coordination and Gene Technology

- Respiration, Muscles and the Internal Environment
- Coordination, Response and Gene Technology

BIOLOGY

Course: A level **Exam Board:** Pearson Edexcel

COURSE CONTENT

Unit 6: Practical Skills in Biology II

Students are expected to develop further the experimental skills and the knowledge and understanding of experimental techniques they acquired in units 1 and 2, by carrying out a range of practical experiments and investigations while they study units 4 and 5.

This unit will assess students' knowledge and understanding of the experimental procedures and techniques that were developed in units 1, 2, 4 and 5.

ASSESSMENT

Assessment consists of three written papers at IAS level that are externally assessed. The International A level consists of three further written papers that are externally assessed.

IAS:

Unit 1 – One written paper; 1hr 30 mins = 80 marks
Unit 2 - One written paper; 1hr 30 mins = 80 marks
Unit 3 - One written paper; 1hr 20 mins = 50 marks

IA2:

Unit 4 – One written paper; 1hr 45 mins = 90 marks
Unit 5 - One written paper; 1hr 45 mins = 90 marks
Unit 6 - One written paper; 1hr 20 mins = 50 marks

The papers may include multiple-choice, short-open, open-response, calculations and extended-writing questions.

The papers will include questions that target mathematics at Level 2 or above. Candidates will be expected to apply their knowledge and understanding to familiar and unfamiliar contexts.

Link to Exam Specification: Biology

FUTURE CAREER

Doctor
Nurse
Pharmacist
Dentist
Biomedical Scientist
Microbiologist
Ecologist
Biotechnologist
Physiotherapist

STUDENT QUOTE

Studying A-Level Biology at Star has been a fantastic experience. The lessons are engaging, and the practical experiments have deepened my understanding. The teachers are incredibly supportive, encouraging curiosity and critical thinking. I feel well-prepared and confident for my future studies in science.

BUSINESS

Course: A level **Exam Board:** Pearson Edexcel

FUTURE CAREER

Business Analyst

Marketing Manager

Sales Manager

Financial Analyst

Entrepreneur

Human Resources Manager

Operations Manager

COURSE OVERVIEW

This course provides students with a deep understanding of the fundamental principles and practices that drive business success in today's dynamic global environment. The course covers a wide range of topics, including business operations, marketing, human resources, finance, and strategic management, with a focus on developing key skills such as analytical thinking, decision-making, and problem-solving. Through a combination of theoretical knowledge and practical application, students will explore the complexities of running a business, understand how businesses adapt to changing markets, and learn how to make informed decisions that contribute to long-term success. This course prepares students for further study in business or related fields and equips them with valuable skills for the business world.

COURSE CONTENT

Unit 1 – Marketing and People

- Meeting customer needs
- The market
- Marketing mix and strategy
- Managing people
- Entrepreneurs and leaders

Unit 2 – Managing Business Activities

- Planning a business and raising finance
- Financial planning
- Managing finance
- Resource management
- External influences

Unit 3 – Business Decisions and Strategy

- Business objectives and strategy
- Business growth
- Decision-making techniques
- Influences on business decisions
- Assessing competitiveness
- Managing change

BUSINESS

Course: A level **Exam Board:** Pearson Edexcel

COURSE CONTENT

Unit 4 – Global Business

- Globalisation
- Global markets and business expansion
- Global marketing
- Global industries and companies (multinational corporations)

ASSESSMENT

Unit 1

Written examination: 2 hours
Section A: Short- and extended-response questions based on sources (30 marks).
Section B: Same format as Section A, based on different sources (30 marks).
Section C: One 20-mark essay question, based on one or more sources (20 marks).

Unit 2

Written examination: 2 hours
Section A: Short- and extended-response questions based on sources (30 marks).
Section B: Same format as Section A, based on different sources (30 marks).
Section C: One 20-mark essay question, based on one or more sources (20 marks).

Unit 3

Written examination: 2 hours
Section A: Short and extended-response questions, based on sources (40 marks).
Section B: One 20-mark essay question, based on one or more sources (20 marks).
Section C: One 20-mark essay question, based on one or more sources (20 marks).

FUTURE CAREER

Business Analyst

Marketing Manager

Sales Manager

Financial Analyst

Entrepreneur

Human Resources Manager

Operations Manager

BUSINESS

Course: A level **Exam Board:** Pearson Edexcel

ASSESSMENT

Unit 4

Written examination: 2 hours

Section A: Short and extended-response questions, based on sources (40 marks).

Section B: One 20-mark essay question, based on one or more sources (20 marks).

Section C: One 20-mark essay question, based on one or more sources (20 marks).

FUTURE CAREER

Business Analyst

Marketing Manager

Sales Manager

Financial Analyst

Entrepreneur

Human Resources Manager

Operations Manager

Link to Exam Specification: Business

STUDENT QUOTE

A-Level Business has been an enriching experience. I have gained practical insights into how businesses operate and developed strong analytical and problem-solving skills. The supportive teachers and interactive lessons have truly prepared me for future studies and career opportunities in the business world.

BUSINESS

Course: BTEC **Exam Board:** Pearson Edexcel

COURSE OVERVIEW

The BTEC Level 3 Diploma in Business provides students with a practical and in-depth understanding of key business concepts, preparing them for a wide range of careers or further study in business-related fields. The course covers a variety of essential topics, including marketing, finance, human resources, operations management, and business ethics. Through both theoretical learning and hands-on projects, students will develop key skills in decision-making, problem-solving, communication, and teamwork. The diploma emphasises real-world applications, enabling students to gain a comprehensive understanding of how businesses operate in a dynamic global environment. By the end of the course, students will be equipped with the knowledge and skills necessary to pursue higher education or embark on a successful career in business.

FUTURE CAREER

Project Manager

Event Manager

Retail Manager

Public Relations Officer

Management Consultant

Business Consultant

Customer Service Manager

Supply Chain Manager

COURSE CONTENT

Mandatory units

There are five mandatory units, three internal units and two set assignment units.

Learners must complete and achieve a Pass or above in all mandatory units.

- Exploring Business - internal
- Research and Plan a Marketing Campaign – set assignment
- Business Finance - internal
- Managing an Event - internal
- Business Decision Making – set assignment

Optional units

Learners must complete optional units totalling at least 240 GLH.

BUSINESS

Course: BTEC **Exam Board:** Pearson Edexcel

ASSESSMENT

This qualification is assessed using a combination of internal assessments, which are set and marked by teachers, and Pearson Set Assignments, which are set by Pearson and marked by teachers.

- Mandatory units have a combination of internal and Pearson Set Assignments.
- All optional units are internally assessed.

Link to Exam Specification: BTEC Business

FUTURE CAREER

Project Manager

Event Manager

Retail Manager

Public Relations Officer

Management Consultant

Business Consultant

Customer Service Manager

Supply Chain Manager

STUDENT QUOTE

Choosing BTEC Business at Star has been a great decision. The hands-on projects and real-world case studies have helped me understand how businesses operate. With supportive teachers and practical learning, I feel confident and well-prepared for future career opportunities in the business world.

CHEMISTRY

Course: A level **Exam Board:** Pearson Edexcel

FUTURE CAREER

Pharmacist

Chemical Engineer

Forensic Scientist

Laboratory Technician

Environmental Consultant

Biochemist

Toxicologist

Chemical Sales Representative

COURSE OVERVIEW

This course offers students a comprehensive understanding of the core concepts and principles of chemistry. The course covers a wide range of topics, including atomic structure, bonding, organic chemistry, thermodynamics, kinetics, and equilibrium. Students will develop a strong foundation in both theoretical knowledge and practical laboratory skills, with an emphasis on applying scientific methods to investigate chemical reactions and processes. The course encourages critical thinking, problem-solving, and data analysis, preparing students for further study in chemistry, medicine, engineering, or other science-related fields. By the end of the course, students will be equipped with the skills and knowledge necessary to understand and analyse chemical phenomena in the world around them.

COURSE CONTENT

This qualification consists of six externally examined units.

Unit 1: Structure, Bonding and Introduction to Organic Chemistry

- Formulae, Equations and Amount of Substance
- Atomic Structure and the Periodic Table
- Bonding and Structure
- Introductory Organic Chemistry and Alkanes
- Alkenes

Unit 2: Energetics, Group Chemistry, Halogenoalkanes and Alcohols

- Energetics
- Intermolecular Forces
- Redox Chemistry and Groups 1, 2 and 7
- Introduction to Kinetics and Equilibria
- Organic Chemistry: Alcohols, Halogenoalkanes and Spectra

Unit 3: Practical Skills in Chemistry I

Students are expected to develop experimental skills, and a knowledge and understanding of experimental techniques, by carrying out a range of practical experiments andinvestigations while they study Units 1 and 2.
This unit will assess students' knowledge and understanding of experimental procedures and techniques that were developed in Units 1 and 2.

CHEMISTRY

Course: A level **Exam Board:** Pearson Edexcel

COURSE CONTENT

Unit 4: Rates, Equilibria and Further Organic Chemistry

- Kinetics
- Entropy and Energetics
- Chemical Equilibria
- Acid-base Equilibria
- Organic Chemistry: Carbonyls, Carboxylic Acids and Chirality

Unit 5: Transition Metals and Organic Nitrogen Chemistry

- Redox Equilibria
- Transition Metals and their Chemistry
- Organic Chemistry: Arenes
- ·Organic Nitrogen Compounds: Amines, Amides, Amino Acids and Proteins
- Organic Synthesis

Unit 6: Practical Skills in Chemistry II

Students are expected to develop further the experimental skills and the knowledge and understanding of experimental techniques that they acquired in Units 1 and 2 (tests for anions and cations, gases and organic functional groups) by carrying out a range of practical experiments and investigations while they study Units 4 and 5.

This unit will assess students' knowledge and understanding of the experimental procedures and techniques that were developed in Units 4 and 5.

ASSESSMENT

Assessment consists of three written papers at IAS level that are externally assessed. The International A level consists of three further written papers that are externally assessed.

IAS:

Unit 1 – One written paper; 1hr 30 mins = 80 marks
Unit 2 - One written paper; 1hr 30 mins = 80 marks
Unit 3 - One written paper; 1hr 20 mins = 50 marks

FUTURE CAREER

Pharmacist

Chemical Engineer

Forensic Scientist

Laboratory Technician

Environmental Consultant

Biochemist

Toxicologist

Chemical Sales Representative

CHEMISTRY

Course: A level **Exam Board:** Pearson Edexcel

ASSESSMENT

IA2:
Unit 4 – One written paper; 1hr 45 mins = 90 marks
Unit 5 - One written paper; 1hr 45 mins = 90 marks
Unit 6 - One written paper; 1hr 20 mins = 50 marks

The papers may include multiple-choice, short-open, open-response, calculations andextended-writing questions.
The papers will include questions that target mathematics at Level 2 or above.
Candidates will be expected to apply their knowledge and understanding to familiar and unfamiliar contexts.

Link to Exam Specification: Chemistry

FUTURE CAREER

Pharmacist

Chemical Engineer

Forensic Scientist

Laboratory Technician

Environmental Consultant

Biochemist

Toxicologist

Chemical Sales Representative

STUDENT QUOTE

Studying A Level Chemistry at Star International School, Al Twar has been a fantastic experience. The interactive labs and detailed lessons have deepened my understanding of complex concepts. With supportive teachers and a personalised approach, I feel confident in applying my knowledge and pursuing my passion for science.

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Course: A level **Exam Board:** Oxford AQA

COURSE OVERVIEW

This course provides students with a thorough understanding of the principles and practices of computer science, preparing them for further study or careers in technology. The course covers a wide range of topics, including computational thinking, algorithms, programming, computer architecture, data representation, and system development. Students will also explore the impact of computing on society, ethical considerations, and emerging technologies. With a strong focus on problem-solving and practical programming skills, students will gain hands-on experience in coding, software development, and applying computational methods to real-world scenarios. The course encourages analytical thinking, logical reasoning, and a deep understanding of the role of computer science in the modern world. By the end of the course, students will be well-prepared for higher education in computer science, engineering, or related fields.

FUTURE CAREER

- Software Developer
- Systems Analyst
- Network Engineer
- Cybersecurity Specialist
- Game Developer
- App Developer
- Artificial Intelligence Engineer
- Cloud Computing Specialist

COURSE CONTENT

AS

Unit 1 - Programming

- Procedural programming
- Fundamental data structures
- Program design
- Searching and sorting algorithms

Unit 2 – Concepts and Principles of Computer Science

- Representing data
- Computer systems
- Computer organisation and architecture
- Machine code and assembly language

A-Level

Unit 3 - Advanced Programming

- Object-oriented and additional programming
- Advanced data structures
- Advanced algorithms

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Course: A level **Exam Board:** Oxford AQA

COURSE CONTENT

Unit 4 - Advanced concepts and principles of computer science

- Functional programming
- Theory of computation
- Networking and cyber security
- Databases
- Artificial intelligence

ASSESSMENT

AS:

Unit 1 – Programming

• On-screen exam available in C#, Python or VB.Net
• 2 hours
• 75 marks
• 50% of AS
• 20% of A-level

Students answer a series of short questions and write and test programs, providing their responses in an Electronic Answer Document (EAD) provided by OxfordAQA

Unit 2 - Concepts and Principles of Computer Science

• Written exam
• 1 hour 30 minutes
• 75 marks
• 50% of AS
• 20% of A-level

A series of short-answer and extended-answer questions.

AL:

Unit 3 - Advanced Programming

• On-screen exam available in C#, Python or VB.Net
• 2 hours 30 minutes
• 90 marks
• 30% of A-level

Students answer a series of short questions and write and test programs, providing their responses in an Electronic Answer Document (EAD) provided by OxfordAQA.

FUTURE CAREER

Software Developer

Systems Analyst

Network Engineer

Cybersecurity Specialist

Game Developer

App Developer

Artificial Intelligence Engineer

Cloud Computing Specialist

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Course: A level **Exam Board:** Oxford AQA

ASSESSMENT

Unit 4 - Advanced concepts and principles of computer science
- Written exam
- 1 hour 30 minutes
- 75 marks
- 30% of A-level

A series of short-answer and extended-answer questions.

Link to Exam Specification: Computer Science

FUTURE CAREER

Software Developer

Systems Analyst

Network Engineer

Cybersecurity Specialist

Game Developer

App Developer

Artificial Intelligence Engineer

Cloud Computing Specialist

STUDENT QUOTE

Studying Computer Science at Star International School, Al Twar has been an amazing journey. The hands-on projects and problem-solving tasks have strengthened my coding skills and logical thinking. With encouraging teachers and a personalised approach, I feel well-prepared for future studies in technology.

DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY

Course: Alevel **Exam Board:** Pearson Edexcel

COURSE OVERVIEW

This course offers students the opportunity to explore and develop their creativity, innovation, and problem-solving skills through the study of product design. The course encourages students to investigate historical, social, cultural, environmental, and economic influences on design and technology while acquiring a broad knowledge of materials, components, and manufacturing processes. Through a combination of theoretical learning and practical application, including a substantial design and make project, students are equipped with the skills needed for higher education or careers in engineering, product design, architecture, and related fields.

COURSE CONTENT

Component 1: Principles of Design and Technology

Topic 1: Materials
Topic 2: Performance characteristics of materials
Topic 3: Processes and techniques
Topic 4: Digital technologies
Topic 5: Factors influencing the development of products
Topic 6: Effects of technological developments
Topic 7: Potential hazards and risk assessment
Topic 8: Features of manufacturing industries
Topic 9: Designing for maintenance and the cleaner environment
Topic 10: Current legislation
Topic 11: Information handling, Modelling and forward planning
Topic 12: Further processes and techniques.

Component 2: Independent Design and Make Project

- Students individually and/or in consultation with a client/end user identify a problem and design context.
- Students will develop a range of potential solutions which include the use of computer aided design and evidence of modelling.
- Students will be expected to make decisions about the designing and development of the prototype in conjunction with the opinions of the client/end user.
- Students will realise one potential solution through practical making activities with evidence of project management and plan for production.

FUTURE CAREER

Product Designer
Architect
Interior Designer
Mechanical Engineer
Civil Engineer
Graphic Designer
Furniture Designer
Design Engineer
CAD Technician
Fashion Designer
Set Designer
Structural Engineer
Urban Planner
Automotive Designer
Manufacturing Engineer

DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY

Course: Alevel **Exam Board:** Pearson Edexcel

COURSE CONTENT

Component 2: Independent Design and Make Project

- Students will incorporate issues related to sustainability and the impact their prototype may have on the environment.
- Students are expected to analyse and evaluate design decisions and outcomes for prototypes/products made by themselves and others.
- Students are expected to analyse and evaluate of wider issues in design technology, including social, moral, ethical and environmental impacts.

ASSESSMENT

Component 1: Principles of Design and Technology

- Written examination: 2 hours 30 minutes
- 50% of the qualification
- 120 marks
- The paper includes calculations, short-open and open-response questions, as well as extended-writing questions focused on:

  -analysis and evaluation of design decisions and outcomes, against a technical principle, for prototypes made by others.
  -analysis and evaluation of wider issues in design technology, including social, moral, ethical and environmental impacts.

- Students must answer all questions.
- Students must have calculators and rulers in the examination

Unit 2 - Concepts and Principles of Computer Science

- Non-examined assessment
- 50% of the qualification
- 120 marks
- The investigation report is internally assessed and externally moderated.
- Students will produce a substantial design, make and evaluate project which consists of a portfolio and a prototype
- The portfolio will contain approximately 40 sides of A3 paper (or electronic equivalent)
- There are four parts to the assessment:

Part 1: Identifying and outlining possibilities for design

Identification and investigation of a design possibility, investigation of client/end user needs, wants and values, research and production of a specification.

FUTURE CAREER

Product Designer
Architect
Interior Designer
Mechanical Engineer
Civil Engineer
Graphic Designer
Furniture Designer
Design Engineer
CAD Technician
Fashion Designer
Set Designer
Structural Engineer
Urban Planner
Automotive Designer
Manufacturing Engineer

DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY

Course: Alevel **Exam Board:** Pearson Edexcel

FUTURE CAREER

Product Designer
Architect
Interior Designer
Mechanical Engineer
Civil Engineer
Graphic Designer
Furniture Designer
Design Engineer
CAD Technician
Fashion Designer
Set Designer
Structural Engineer
Urban Planner
Automotive Designer
Manufacturing Engineer

Part 2: Designing a prototype
Design ideas, development of design idea, final design solution, review of development and final design and communication of design ideas.

Part 3: Making a final prototype
Design, manufacture and realisation of a final prototype, including tools and equipment and quality and accuracy.

Part 4: Evaluating own design and prototype
Testing and evaluation

Link to Exam Specification: Design and Technology.

STUDENT QUOTE

Studying Design and Technology at Star, Al Twar has been a truly rewarding experience. The practical projects and creative challenges have helped me develop both critical thinking and design skills. With supportive teachers and a personalised learning environment, I have gained the confidence and knowledge I need to pursue my future in the field of design and innovation.

ENGLISH LITERATURE

Course: A level **Exam Board:** Pearson Edexcel

FUTURE CAREER

Author

Editor

Freelance Writer

Journalist

Marketing Specialist

Literary Agent

Speech Writer

Film and Theatre Critic

Communications Director

COURSE OVERVIEW

This course offers students an in-depth exploration of a wide range of literary works, from classic to contemporary, fostering a deep appreciation of literature's role in reflecting and shaping society. The course covers key genres, including poetry, drama, and prose, with a focus on developing critical reading, analysis, and writing skills. Students will study a variety of texts from different periods, exploring themes such as identity, power, conflict, and human experience. Through detailed analysis of language, structure, and context, students will gain insight into the complexities of literary works and develop their ability to interpret and evaluate texts. The course encourages independent thinking, discussion, and the application of critical theories, preparing students for further study in literature, language, or related fields. By the end of the course, students will have refined their analytical and communication skills, making them well-equipped for academic challenges and future careers.

COURSE CONTENT

Unit 1: Post-2000 Poetry and Prose

Students will study:

- a selection of post-2000 poetry from Poems of the Decade: An Anthology of the Forward Books of Poetry 2002–2011
- one post-2000 prose fiction text from a choice of five texts.

Unit 2: Drama

Students will study:

- one pre-1900 drama text from a choice of five and
- one post-1900 drama text from a choice of five.

Unit 3: Poetry and prose

Students will study:

- post-1900 unseen poetry
- two prose fiction texts, from a choice of three texts, covering one theme (choice of four themes).

Unit 4: Shakespeare and Pre-1900 Poetry

Students will study:

- one Shakespeare text from a choice of four
- one specified collection of pre-1900 poems from one literary movement, from a choice of three.

ENGLISH LITERATURE

Course: A level **Exam Board:** Pearson Edexcel

ASSESSMENT

Unit 1
Written examination: 2 hours
Section A: Post-2000 Poetry
• Students answer one essay question from a choice of two on the prescribed poems.
• 25 marks
Section B: Post-2000 Prose
• Students answer one essay question from a choice of two on their chosen prose fiction text.
• 25 marks

Unit 2
Written examination: 2 hours
Section A: Pre-1900 Drama
• Students answer one essay question from a choice of two on their chosen drama text.
• 25 marks
Section B: Post-1900 Drama
• Students answer one essay question from a choice of two on their chosen text.
• 25 marks

Unit 3
Written examination: 2 hours
Section A: Poetry
• Students answer one essay question on a post-1900 unseen poem.
• 20 marks
Section B: Prose
• Students answer one comparative essay question, from a choice of two, on their two chosen texts from their chosen theme.
• 30 marks

FUTURE CAREER

Author
Editor
Freelance Writer
Journalist
Marketing Specialist
Literary Agent
Speech Writer
Film and Theatre Critic
Communications Director

ENGLISH LITERATURE

Course: A level **Exam Board:** Pearson Edexcel

ASSESSMENT

Unit 4
Written examination: 2 hours
Section A: Shakespeare
• Students answer one essay question from a choice of two on their chosen text.
• 25 marks
Section B: Pre-1900 Poetry
• Students answer one essay question from a choice of two on their chosen movement.
• 25 marks

Link to Exam Specification: English Literature

FUTURE CAREER

Author
Editor
Freelance Writer
Journalist
Marketing Specialist
Literary Agent
Speech Writer
Film and Theatre Critic
Communications Director

STUDENT QUOTE

A Level English Literature has been an enriching experience. I have developed strong analytical and critical thinking skills while exploring diverse texts. The supportive teachers and engaging discussions have truly deepened my appreciation for literature and prepared me for future academic challenges.

GEOGRAPHY

Course: A level **Exam Board:** AQA

COURSE OVERVIEW

This course provides students with a comprehensive understanding of both physical and human geography, exploring the dynamic relationship between people and the environment. The course covers a range of topics including natural hazards, coastal systems, global systems, and economic and social issues. Students will investigate global challenges such as climate change, migration, and urbanisation while developing their fieldwork skills and the ability to critically analyse geographical data. The course also emphasises geographical skills, including data interpretation and the use of GIS, and requires students to engage in independent research through a personal investigation. This balanced approach ensures that students develop both theoretical knowledge and practical expertise in geographical inquiry.

COURSE CONTENT

Physical Geography

1.Water and carbon cycles
2.Hot desert systems and landscapes
3.Coastal systems and landscapes
4.Glacial systems and landscapes
5.Hazards
6.Ecosystems under stress

Human Geography

7.Global systems and global governance
8.Changing places
9.Contemporary urban environments
10.Population and the environment
11.Resource security

Geography fieldwork investigation

12.Fieldwork requirements
13.Investigation requirements

Geographical skills

14.Geographical skills checklist

FUTURE CAREER

Urban Planner

Geospatial Analyst

Cartographer

Climate Change Analyst

Surveyor

Environmental Manager

Travel and Tourism Manager

Sustainability Consultant

Natural Resource Manager

Transport Planner

GEOGRAPHY

Course: IGCSE **Exam Board:** Pearson Edexcel

ASSESSMENT

Component 1 – Physical Geography
Section A: Water and carbon cycles
Section B: either Hot desert systems and landscapes or Coastal systems and landscapes or Glacial systems and landscapes
Section C: either Hazards or Ecosystems under stress

- Written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes
- 120 marks
- 40% of A-level

Component 2 – Human Geography
Section A: Global systems and global governance
Section B: Changing places
Section C: either Contemporary urban environments or Population and the environment or Resource security

- Written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes
- 120 marks
- 40% of A-level

Component 3 – Geography Fieldwork Investigation
Students complete an individual investigation which must include data collected in the field. The individual investigation must be based on a question or issue defined and developed by the student relating to any part of the specification content.

- 3,000–4,000 words
- 60 marks
- 20% of A-level
- marked by teachers
- moderated by AQA

Link to Exam Specification: Geography

A Level Geography has been an inspiring journey. I have gained a deeper understanding of the world's landscapes, cultures, and environmental challenges. The interactive lessons and hands-on projects have enhanced my analytical skills and made learning both enjoyable and meaningful.

FUTURE CAREER

Urban Planner

Geospatial Analyst

Cartographer

Climate Change Analyst

Surveyor

Environmental Manager

Travel and Tourism Manager

Sustainability Consultant

Natural Resource Manager

Transport Planner

STUDENT QUOTE

HISTORY

Course: A level **Exam Board:** AQA

COURSE OVERVIEW

This course offers students an in-depth exploration of significant historical events, periods, and themes. The course is divided into two main components: breadth studies and depth studies. Students will examine key topics such as the development of early modern Britain, the rise of Nazi Germany, and the challenges of the Cold War. The course also encourages the development of critical thinking and analytical skills, as students assess historical sources, construct arguments, and engage with historiographical debates. Through independent research, students will complete a historical investigation, allowing them to deepen their understanding of a specific historical topic. This well-rounded approach ensures students gain a strong foundation in both historical knowledge and the methods of historical enquiry.

FUTURE CAREER

Archaeologist

Museum Curator

Archivist

Genealogist

Political Analyst

Policy Advisor

Documentary Maker

Public Relations Officer

Diplomat

COURSE CONTENT

Component 1: Breadth Study

The Tudors: England, 1485–1603

This topic allows students to study in breadth issues of change, continuity, cause and consequence in this period through the following key questions:

- How effectively did the Tudors restore and develop the powers of the monarchy?
- In what ways and how effectively was England governed during this period?
- How did relations with foreign powers change and how was the succession secured?
- How did English society and economy change and with what effects?
- How far did intellectual and religious ideas change and develop and with what effects?
- How important was the role of key individuals and groups and how were they affected by developments?

Component 2: Depth Study

The Cold War, c1945–1991

This option provides for the study in depth of the evolving course of international relations during an era of tension between communist and capitalist powers which threatened nuclear Armageddon. It explores concepts such as communism and anti-communism, aggression and détente and also encourages students to reflect on the power of modern military technology, what hastens confrontation and what forces promote peace in the modern world.

HISTORY

Course: A level **Exam Board:** AQA

COURSE CONTENT

Component 3: Historical Investigation

Students will be required to submit a Historical Investigation based on a development or issue which has been subject to different historical interpretations.

The Historical Investigation must:

- be independently researched and written by the student
- be presented in the form of a piece of extended writing of between 3500 and 4500 words in length, with a limit of 4500 words
- draw upon the student's investigation of sources (both primary and secondary) which relate to the development or issue chosen and the differing interpretations that have been placed on this
- place the issue to be investigated within a context of approximately 100 years
- be an issue which does not duplicate the content of Components 1 and 2.

ASSESSMENT

Component 1: Breadth Study

The study of significant historical developments over a period of around 100 years and associated interpretations.

Section A – one compulsory question linked to historical interpretations (30 marks)

Section B – two from three essays (2 x 25 marks)

- written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes
- three questions (one compulsory)
- 80 marks
- 40% of A-level

Component 2: Depth Study

The study in depth of a period of major historical change or development and associated primary evidence.

Section A – one compulsory question linked to primary sources or sources contemporary to the period (30 marks)

Section B – two from three essays (2 x 25 marks)

FUTURE CAREER

Archaeologist

Museum Curator

Archivist

Genealogist

Political Analyst

Policy Advisor

Documentary Maker

Public Relations Officer

Diplomat

HISTORY

Course: A level **Exam Board:** AQA

ASSESSMENT

Assessed

- written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes
- three questions (one compulsory)
- 80 marks
- 40% of A-level

Component 3: Historical Investigation

A personal study based on a topic of student's choice. This should take the form of a question in the context of approximately 100 years. It must not duplicate the content of options chosen for Components 1 and 2.

- 3500–4500 words
- 40 marks
- 20% of A-level
- marked by teachers
- moderated by AQA

Link to Exam Specification: History

FUTURE CAREER

Archaeologist

Museum Curator

Archivist

Genealogist

Political Analyst

Policy Advisor

Documentary Maker

Public Relations Officer

Diplomat

STUDENT QUOTE

I have gained a profound understanding of historical events and developed strong critical thinking skills through the A Level History course at Star International School, Al Twar. The engaging lessons and supportive teachers have been invaluable, leaving me with knowledge and confidence that will last a lifetime.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Course: A level **Exam Board:** Pearson Edexcel

COURSE OVERVIEW

This course provides students with a comprehensive understanding of how technology impacts the modern world. This course covers a broad range of topics, including the fundamentals of IT systems, the role of information systems in business environments, and the use of technology to solve real-world problems. Students will explore areas such as database management, system analysis and design, software development, and network management. The course also emphasises the development of practical skills, allowing students to apply their knowledge in practical scenarios. By the end of the course, learners will have gained a solid foundation in IT, preparing them for further education, careers in technology, or related fields.

FUTURE CAREER

- IT Consultant
- Software Developer
- Web Developer
- Systems Analyst
- Network Administrator
- Database Administrator
- IT Support Specialist
- Cybersecurity Analyst

COURSE CONTENT

Unit 1

- Topic 1: Hardware and software
- Topic 2: Networks
- Topic 3: The online environment
- Topic 4: IT systems
- Topic 5: Data and databases
- Topic 6: Wider issues

Unit 2

- Topic 7: Understanding the functionality of HTML
- Topic 8: Understanding the functionality of CSS
- Topic 9: Understanding the functions of Javascript
- Topic 10: Designing web pages
- Topic 11: The semantic web

Unit 3

- Topic 12: Manipulating data
- Topic 13: Enabling technologies
- Topic 14: Using IT systems in organisations
- Topic 15: Systems development
- Topic 16: Emerging technologies

- **Unit 4**
- Topic 17: Use of features of database solutions
- Topic 18: Relational database concepts
- Topic 19: Database solutions

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Course: A level **Exam Board:** Pearson Edexcel

ASSESSMENT

Unit 1

- Written examination: 2 hours
- 80 marks
- This paper may include multiple-choice, short-open-response, open-response and extended open-response questions.
- All four assessment objectives are assessed.
- Candidates must answer all questions.

Unit 2

- Written examination: 3 hours
- 80 marks
- This paper consists of theoretical and practical questions and may include short-open-response, open-response and extended open-response questions.
- Data files will be provided for some questions. Some responses will be written, others will involve the submission of files.
- All four assessment objectives are assessed.
- Each candidate will need access to a computer during the examination.
- Candidates must answer all questions.

Unit 3

- Written examination: 2 hours
- 80 marks
- This paper may include short-open-response, open-response and extended open-response questions.
- All four assessment objectives are assessed.
- Candidates must answer all questions.

FUTURE CAREER

IT Consultant

Software Developer

Web Developer

Systems Analyst

Network Administrator

Database Administrator

IT Support Specialist

Cybersecurity Analyst

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Course: A level **Exam Board:** Pearson Edexcel

ASSESSMENT

Unit 4

·Written examination: 3 hours
·80 marks
·This paper consists of practical and theoretical questions and may include short-open-response, open-response and extended open-response questions.
·Data files will be provided for some questions.
·All responses will be submitted using a word-processed candidate evidence template.
·All four assessment objectives are assessed.
·Each candidate will need access to a computer during the examination.
·Candidates must answer all questions.

Link to Exam Specification: Information Technology

FUTURE CAREER

IT Consultant

Software Developer

Web Developer

Systems Analyst

Network Administrator

Database Administrator

IT Support Specialist

Cybersecurity Analyst

STUDENT QUOTE

The A Level IT course at Star has been a game-changer. I have gained experience with industry-standard software, developed problem-solving skills, and built confidence in my ability to design and implement IT solutions. Excellent teaching and support.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Course: BTEC **Exam Board:** Pearson Edexcel

COURSE OVERVIEW

The BTEC Level 3 Diploma in Information Technology offers students a comprehensive understanding of the key concepts and practical skills needed in the fast-evolving world of IT. The course covers a wide range of topics, including computer systems, software development, website design, networking, and data management. Students will have the opportunity to work on real-world projects, developing problem-solving, technical, and analytical skills essential for careers in IT and technology. The diploma emphasises both theoretical knowledge and hands-on experience, allowing students to apply their learning in practical settings. By the end of the course, students will be well-prepared for further study or a career in IT, equipped with the skills and knowledge to succeed in various technology-driven industries.

COURSE CONTENT

Mandatory units

There are two mandatory units that are set-assignment assessment units. Learners must complete and achieve a Pass or above in the two mandatory units.

- Information Technology Systems – Strategy, Management and Infrastructure - Set assignment
- Website Development - Set assignment

Optional units

Learners must complete optional units to a minimum value of 540 GLH.

ASSESSMENT

BTEC International Level 3 qualifications are assessed using a combination of internal assessments, which are set and marked by teachers, and Pearson Set Assignments, which are set by Pearson and marked by teachers.

- Mandatory units will be assessed by Pearson Set Assignments.
- Optional units are internally assessed.

Link to Exam Specification: BTEC Information Technology.

FUTURE CAREER

Cloud Computing Specialist

IT Project Manager

Business Analyst

Data Analyst

Game Developer

Digital Marketing Specialist

UX/UI Designer

E-commerce Manager

STUDENT QUOTE

I have developed exceptional IT skills and knowledge through the BTEC IT course at Star. The course's practical approach and supportive teachers have prepared me for a successful career in IT, and I am grateful for the opportunities and experiences gained.

MATHEMATICS

Course: A level **Exam Board:** Pearson Edexcel

COURSE OVERVIEW

This course offers students a deep and thorough understanding of mathematical concepts and techniques. This course covers key areas such as pure mathematics, mechanics, and statistics, providing a balanced approach to both theoretical and applied mathematics. Students will study topics including algebra, calculus, trigonometry, probability, and mathematical modeling. The course is designed to develop problem-solving skills, logical reasoning, and the ability to apply mathematical methods to real-world situations. By the end of the course, students will have built a strong mathematical foundation, equipping them for further study in mathematics, science, engineering, economics, or other related fields.

FUTURE CAREER

- Actuary
- Data Analyst
- Statistician
- Financial Analyst
- Economist
- Engineer
- Operations Research Analyst
- Cryptographer
- Project Manager
- Risk Analyst

COURSE CONTENT

The International Advanced Level in Mathematics qualification consists of six externally-examined units:

Compulsory Units

Pure Mathematics 1

Algebra and functions; coordinate geometry in the (x, y); trigonometry; differentiation; integration.

Pure Mathematics 2

Proof; algebra and functions; coordinate geometry in the (x, y) plane; sequences and series; exponentials and logarithms; trigonometry; differentiation; integration.

Pure Mathematics 3

Algebra and functions; trigonometry; exponentials and logarithms; differentiation; integration; numerical methods.

Pure Mathematics 4

Proof; algebra and functions; coordinate geometry in the (x, y) plane; binomial expansion; differentiation; integration; vectors.

Optional Units

Mechanics 1

Mathematical models in mechanics; vectors in mechanics; kinematics of a particle moving in a straight line; dynamics of a particle moving in a straight line or plane; statics of a particle; moments.

Mechanics 2

Kinematics of a particle moving in a straight line or plane; centres of mass; work and energy; collisions; statics of rigid bodies.

MATHEMATICS

Course: A level **Exam Board:** Pearson Edexcel

COURSE CONTENT

Statistics 1

Mathematical models in probability and statistics; representation and summary of data; probability; correlation and regression; discrete random variables; discrete distributions; the Normal distribution.

Statistics 2

The Binomial and Poisson distributions; continuous random variables; continuous distributions; samples; hypothesis tests.

Decision Mathematics 1

Algorithms; algorithms on graphs; algorithms on graphs II; critical path analysis; linear programming.

Mechanics 1 and Statistics1 or
Mechanics 1 and Decision Mathematics 1 or
Mechanics 1 and Mechanics 2 or
Statistics 1 and Decision Mathematics1 or
Statistics 1 and Statistics 2

ASSESSMENT

- Each unit (6 in total):
- is externally assessed
- has a written examination of 1 hour and 30 minutes
- has 75 marks.

Link to Exam Specification: Mathematics.

FUTURE CAREER

Actuary

Data Analyst

Statistician

Financial Analyst

Economist

Engineer

Operations Research Analyst

Cryptographer

Project Manager

Risk Analyst

STUDENT QUOTE

The supportive environment at Star International School, Al Twar has truly boosted my confidence in Mathematics. With personalised guidance and challenging problem-solving tasks, I have developed strong analytical and logical thinking skills. I am grateful for the encouragement and dedication of my teachers throughout my A Level journey.

PHYSICS

Course: A level **Exam Board:** Pearson Edexcel

COURSE OVERVIEW

This course offers students a comprehensive exploration of the principles and applications of physics. The course covers key areas such as mechanics, electricity, waves, thermodynamics, and modern physics, including topics like nuclear physics and particle physics. Students will develop both theoretical knowledge and practical skills through hands-on experiments, helping them understand the fundamental laws of nature and how they apply to real-world scenarios. Emphasising problem-solving, critical thinking, and scientific inquiry, the course prepares students for further studies in physics, engineering, or other science-based disciplines, as well as for careers that require a strong understanding of physical principles.

COURSE CONTENT

Unit 1 – Mechanics and Materials

- Mechanics
- Materials

Unit 2 – Waves and Electricity

- Waves and Particle Nature of Light
- Electric Circuits

Unit 3 – Practical Skills in Physics II

Students are expected to develop experimental skills, and a knowledge and understanding of experimental techniques, by carrying out a range of practical experiments and investigations while they study Units 1 and 2.

This unit will assess candidates' knowledge and understanding of experimental procedures and techniques that were developed in Units 1 and 2.

Unit 4 – Further Mechanics, Fields and Particles

- Further Mechanics
- Electric and Magnetic Fields
- Nuclear and Particle Physics

Unit 5 - Thermodynamics, Radiation, Oscillations and Cosmology

- Thermodynamics
- Nuclear Decay
- Oscillations
- Astrophysics and Cosmology

FUTURE CAREER

Engineer (e.g., Mechanical, Electrical, Civil)

Aerospace Engineer

Research Scientist

Medical Physicist

Laboratory Technician

Nuclear Engineer

Geophysicist

Renewable Energy Consultant

Radiation Protection Specialist

Robotics Engineer

Forensic Scientist

PHYSICS

Course: A level **Exam Board:** Pearson Edexcel

COURSE CONTENT

Unit 6 - Practical Skills in Physics II

Students are expected to further develop the experimental skills and the knowledge and understanding of experimental techniques that they acquired in Units 1 and 2 by carrying out a range of practical experiments and investigations while they study Units 4 and 5.

This unit will assess candidates' knowledge and understanding of the experimental procedures and techniques that were developed in Units 4 and 5.

ASSESSMENT

Unit 1

- Written examination: 1 hour and 30 minutes
- 80 marks

Unit 2

- Written examination: 1 hour and 30 minutes
- 80 marks

These papers may include multiple-choice, short-open, open-response, calculations and extended-writing questions.

These papers will include questions that target mathematics at Level 2 or above. A minimum of 32 marks will be awarded for mathematics at Level 2 or above.

Candidates will be expected to apply their knowledge and understanding to familiar and unfamiliar contexts.

Unit 3

- Written examination: 1 hour and 20 minutes
- 50 marks

The paper may include short-open, open-response, calculations and extended-writing questions.

The paper will include questions that target mathematics at Level 2 or above. A minimum of 20 marks will be awarded for mathematics at Level 2 or above.

Candidates will be expected to apply their knowledge and understanding of practical skills to familiar and unfamiliar situations.

Unit 4

- Written examination: 1 hour and 45 minutes
- 90 marks

FUTURE CAREER

Engineer (e.g., Mechanical, Electrical, Civil)

Aerospace Engineer

Research Scientist

Medical Physicist

Laboratory Technician

Nuclear Engineer

Geophysicist

Renewable Energy Consultant

Radiation Protection Specialist

Robotics Engineer

Forensic Scientist

PHYSICS

Course: A level **Exam Board:** Pearson Edexcel

ASSESSMENT

Unit 5

- Written examination: 1 hour and 45 minutes
- 90 marks

These papers may include multiple-choice, short-open, open-response, calculations and extended-writing questions.
These papers will include questions that target mathematics at Level 2 or above. A minimum of 36 marks will be awarded for mathematics at Level 2 or above.
Candidates will be expected to apply their knowledge and understanding to familiar and unfamiliar contexts.

Unit 6

- Written examination: 1 hour and 20 minutes
- 50 marks

The paper may include short-open, open-response, calculations and extended-writing questions.
The paper will include questions that target mathematics at Level 2 or above. A minimum of 20 marks will be awarded for mathematics at Level 2 or above.
Candidates will be expected to apply their knowledge and understanding of practical skills to familiar and unfamiliar situations.

Link to Exam Specification: Physics.

FUTURE CAREER

Engineer (e.g., Mechanical, Electrical, Civil)

Aerospace Engineer

Research Scientist

Medical Physicist

Laboratory Technician

Nuclear Engineer

Geophysicist

Renewable Energy Consultant

Radiation Protection Specialist

Robotics Engineer

Forensic Scientist

STUDENT QUOTE

Star's A Level Physics course has been outstanding. I have gained a deep understanding of complex concepts, developed strong problem-solving skills, and cultivated a passion for scientific inquiry. Excellent teaching and resources have made my learning experience truly enjoyable and rewarding.

SPORTS

Course: BTEC **Exam Board:** Pearson Edexcel

COURSE OVERVIEW

The BTEC Level 3 Diploma in Sport provides students with an in-depth understanding of sports science, fitness, coaching, and the sports industry. The course covers a wide range of topics, including anatomy and physiology, sports psychology, nutrition, fitness testing, and sports management. Students will gain both theoretical knowledge and practical skills through a combination of classroom learning, hands-on activities, and real-world projects. The diploma also offers opportunities for students to develop their coaching and leadership abilities, preparing them for a variety of careers in sport, fitness, and physical education. By the end of the course, students will be equipped with the expertise and qualifications needed to pursue higher education or careers in sport-related fields, including coaching, fitness training, sports management, and sports science.

COURSE CONTENT

Mandatory units

There are five mandatory units. Learners must complete and achieve a Pass or above in all mandatory units.

- Health, Wellbeing and Sport - Set assignment
- Careers in the Sport and Active Leisure Industry - Set assignment
- Applied Sports Anatomy and Physiology - Internal
- Sport Development - Internal
- Practical Sports Performance - Internal

Optional units

Learners must complete optional units totalling at least 360 GLH.

ASSESSMENT

BTEC International Level 3 qualifications are assessed using a combination of internal assessments, which are set and marked by teachers, and Pearson Set Assignments, which are set by Pearson and marked by teachers.

- Mandatory units have a combination of internal and Pearson Set Assignments.
- All optional units are internally assessed.

Link to Exam Specification: BTEC Sport

FUTURE CAREER

Sports Therapist

Personal Trainer

Sports Scientist

Sports Nutritionist

Exercise Physiologist

Sports Development Officer

Sports Psychologist

Outdoor Activity Instructor

Sports Journalist

STUDENT QUOTE

BTEC Sport course at Star has exceeded my expectations. The school's outstanding sports facilities have enabled me to gain hands-on experience, while the expert teachers have provided valuable guidance. I am happy with the knowledge and skills I have gained, and I feel well-prepared for my future career.

#BrightFutures

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