

CONTENTS

Introduction from Headmaster	2
Specialist Support	3
Life Skills /CoPE	4
Bridge course (level 2)	4
Health & Social Care - VGCSE double award	5
Leisure & Tourism - VGCSE double award	5
Sport and Fitness (recreational)	6
Creative Studies - Fashion C & G (level 1/2)	6
Advanced Level Courses introduction	7
Careers and Progression	7
Art & Design GCE AS/A2	8
Biology GCE AS/A2	8
Business Studies GCE Applied AS/A2	9
Chemistry GCE AS/A2	9
Design Technology GCE AS/A2	10
English GCE AS/A2	10
Geography GCE AS/A2	11
History GCE AS/A2	11
ICT GCE Applied AS/A2	12
Mathematics GCE AS/A2	12
Media Studies GCE AS/A2	13
Modern Languages GCE AS/A2	13
Music GCE AS/A2	14
Performance Studies GCE AS/A2	14
Physical Education GCE AS/A2	15
Physics GCE AS/A2	15



Stanbridge
Earls School

The Sixth Form Handbook

2009 - 2010

building confidence

achieving success

Welcome to the Stanbridge Earls 6th form Prospectus - more than just another school.

Headmasters Welcome

Thank you for considering Stanbridge Earls sixth form for you son or daughter. In the following pages we hope you will see that the school offers all you would expect from any independent school, but in addition a unique package of specialist help and support to enable pupils to reach their full potential.

The school enjoys an international reputation for helping students with specific learning difficulties to achieve extraordinary success and Stanbridge is in the top 10% of schools for value added.

Students with Dyslexia, Dyscalculia, Dyspraxia and other Specific Learning Difficulties are taught a full range of academic, practical and vocational courses from Entry Level GCSEs to Advanced Levels.

Curriculum Options

The school sixth form caters for both students who have succeeded at GCSE and wish to start advanced level study and also those for whom additional time on the intermediate level studies is necessary to give them the skills and confidence to progress with their studies.

Because of the nature of student difficulties it is common for English and/or maths GCSE to be retaken alongside A level study.

We are able to offer a good range of subjects and class sizes range from around five students to individual tuition and every effort is made to meet students' course interests. The specialist support teachers work alongside subject teachers to ensure each student has the appropriate support for optimum success. Students develop a close relationship with staff.

Enrichment Programme

A popular enrichment programme operates throughout the year with staff and students organising educational lectures, life skills courses, theatre, art and music trips. For the social enrichment there are discos, dances, parties, dinners and a leavers' prom and art, theatre and music trips.

All students have the use of their own sixth form common rooms and study periods may be spent working in their boarding house, library or ICT suite. The timetable allows enough flexibility for sixth formers to pursue recreational interests such as working out in the new multi-gym or practising musical instruments. There is also a sixth form social club including a bar (opened at specific times and run by a member of staff).



Pastoral care

I firmly believe that happiness lies at the root of all successful teaching and to this end pastoral care is an important part of the school's ethos. Throughout the sixth form tutors underpin and coordinate academic progress, career and higher education plans. They work closely with house heads, the head of sixth form and the careers staff to ensure every student's needs are met.

Our sixth form students welcome the chance to demonstrate leadership and responsibility as school prefects, school monitors and house prefects. We also seek to stretch and challenge our students and offer them new opportunities through the extensive range of sporting, cultural and extra-curricular activities.

Academic achievement, alongside specialist learning support, the chance to stretch oneself, develop teamwork and leadership skills and make friendships that last a lifetime are all good reasons to study in the sixth form at Stanbridge Earls.

Progression

In 2008 all pupils leaving the sixth form went into either further study or work. No leaver was found to be "not in education, employment and training" (NEET) thus meeting the government targets for young people.

Pupils entering Higher Education went into a wide variety of subject areas; including Medical engineering, civil engineering, film studies, mathematics with statistics, event management, sports studies with rugby studies, international hospitality management and classical music. Some student decided to take a gap year before taking up their university place.

Students not aiming for Higher Education have successfully transferred to relevant further education and employment with training.

The emphasis is on ensuring that the two most academically rigorous years of school life, also provide a full range of opportunities and, above all, skills and friendships that last a lifetime.

We are proud of our record of developing each individual's interests and potential and helping them to make a successful transition into the wider community.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to be 'Geoff Link'.

Geoff Link M Ed Cert Ed
Headmaster

SPECIALIST SUPPORT

At Stanbridge we pride ourselves at providing all that can be found in a normal independent school, but with a unique level of support that helps students to achieve whatever their difficulties.

ACCELERATED LEARNING CENTRE (ALC)

The ALC centre was established in 1963 and is now housed in a custom designed building at the heart of the school. It contains 14 teaching rooms leading off from a library and reading area. The library contains carefully chosen graded fiction, non-fiction, reference books and also taped books. All teaching rooms have PCs and CD players as standard equipment and a wide range of software packages to ensure that learning is an active and enjoyable experience.

Our **Accelerated Learning Centre** houses one-to-one literacy specialists for Dyslexics as well as Speech and Language therapists and English as a Second Language teachers. Occupational Therapy provides support for Dyspraxics. Staff in the ALC regularly attend conferences, seminars and in-service courses to ensure they are up to date in the latest developments in the field of dyslexia, including work with resources designed for computer use.

The centre offers individual multi-sensory, structured language programmes that have been developed within the framework of the head of department's scheme of work. This can incorporate the techniques of many experts including: Gillingham and Stillman, Hickey, Brand, Hornsby, Bramley and Coudrey. These varied schemes are designed to develop reading, writing and spelling skills to the full.

The teacher to pupil ratio is around 1 to 6, with an additional 25+ specialist trained teachers in the Learning Centres. Each student has a tailored package to suit their individual needs and help them to achieve and gain confidence in a safe, caring environment.

Mrs P Little SENCo

ENGLISH AS AN ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE

For those pupils who do not have English as their first language qualified EAL teachers are available to work with them on a one-to-one basis to ensure they gain the best results. Students are encouraged to take Cambridge ESOL exams including KET, PET, CFE and CAE. Advice is given on requirements for higher education.

THE MATHEMATICS LEARNING CENTRE (MLC)

The MLC was established in 1980 by the present Head of Department, with an aim to enable all students to fulfil their potential in mathematics. The team of specialist teachers use a variety of innovative approaches to encourage pupils to overcome their difficulties and build their self-confidence allowing them to achieve their optimum level.

The centre is equipped with computers, 3 D teaching aids and an extensive range of textbooks and worksheets which are written to meet individual needs. Close liaison between the maths and science departments ensure a coordinated approach.

The MLC is unique in teaching pupils on a one to one basis to address their difficulties in the subject. Our pupils generally achieve grades at GCSE well beyond those predicted at earlier levels.

Mrs S Taylor

SPEECH AND LANGUAGE THERAPY

The school has a specialist S & L therapist who aims to develop students' skills for accessing the curriculum, independent living and successful social interaction. Students can be taught in various settings, 1:1 sessions, small groups and with classroom support.

The Communication Skills Centre works to develop speech (sound), language (words and sentences) and social interaction (conversation) skills.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

OT aims to increase an individual's independence and sense of self-worth by helping them to develop their co-ordination, personal, social and learning skills.

The use of physical and social interactivity as a treatment enables pupils to catch up on delayed skills and as they start to enjoy being in their body they feel more confident. Academic learning benefits with improved sitting tolerance, less fatigue, increased concentration and improved visual tracking and spatial awareness.

Mrs G Coppock

INTERMEDIATE STUDIES (LEVEL 2)

THE BRIDGE COURSE

One or two year intermediate level (level 2) study options

Stanbridge is aware that some students need more time to achieve their potential and the Bridge Course provides a varied curriculum to enable them to achieve success at GCSE level.

The core subjects of English language and maths are offered alongside a variety of new vocational subjects and life and key skills topics.

Vocational GCSEs are offered in health & social care and leisure & tourism. These courses have a high element of coursework assessment and reward consistent effort. There are three units of study and two of these are coursework assessed. Students are able to have two attempts at tests. These are held in January and June. The double award is equivalent to 2 GCSE passes.

Vocational City and Guilds courses are also offered in fashion and motor vehicle study. Some students combine these with advanced level study.

One of the core goals of the school is to equip students to be able to participate fully in society and to succeed and achieve. To achieve this aim a Life Skills course is offered alongside academic studies.

LIFE SKILLS (ASDAN Entry level 1 - 3)

Life skills are those kinds of skills that we must use when dealing with others, which are generally important for us to function successfully in our society. By "life skills" most people understand more complex kinds of behaviour that are essential to become an active member of society, and be able to deal with such issues as finding work and accommodation or using your leisure time.

The ASDAN qualification embraces the development of Personal, Social, Health, Moral, Citizenship and ICT skills and also encompasses the development of independent skills and skills which prepare the candidate for life. Progression is recognised throughout the 3 levels of the qualification in requiring the candidate to demonstrate their ability to maintain skills learnt as well as recognising lateral and incremental achievements.

Students achieving the Certificate in Life Skills Entry 3 can gain credits towards ASDAN's CoPE (Certificate of Personal Effectiveness at level 1)

LIFE AND SOCIAL SKILLS

The qualification consists of 6 units and students are required to complete 4. These include:

- Personal Care
- Home Management
- Community
- Preparation for Working Life
- Citizenship
- ICT

Assessment is entirely by a portfolio of evidence. There are no examinations.

Course contact: Mrs M Adams

ASDAN Certificate of Personal Effectiveness (CoPE) Level 1

Students develop and demonstrate a range of skills by undertaking a wide variety of challenges and tasks from modules such as Communication, The Environment, Independent living, Work related learning and enterprise and International Issues.

Each student produces a portfolio of work, customised to target their strengths, that provides evidence of working with others, improving learning and performance, problem solving, planning and carrying out research, communicating through discussion and giving an oral presentation.

On successful completion of sufficient tasks to gain 12 credits students are awarded a CoPE Level 1 Certificate. The course will allow students to recognise their personal achievements, manage their own learning, broaden their experiences and develop employability skills.

Course contact - Mr G Pearce

BRIDGE COURSES

GCSE Core Subjects

English
Maths

VGCSE double award

Health and Social Care
Leisure and Tourism

CITY & GUILDS

Craft Studies - Fashion
Automotive Vehicle Servicing and Repair

ENTRY LEVEL CERTIFICATE

Basic Mathematics for Life
Life Skills

ASDAN Certificate of Personal Effectiveness level 1

CLAIT

Subjects offered may vary depending on the pupil needs and timetabling constraints.

HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE - VGCSE (double award)

From September pupils will be able to study for a GCSE (Single Award) which is both a 'stand alone' qualification and also the first half of the corresponding GCSE (Double Award). The teacher controlled assessment (externally moderated) accounts to 60% or the final mark whilst the examination accounts for 40%. Assessments are carried out in January and June and the Teacher Controlled Assessments can be submitted at either exam session.

WHAT WILL I LEARN ON THE COURSE?

The Single Award is made up of two mandatory units. The content of each is below.

Unit 1

This unit covers: care in a range of major client groups; the ways people can obtain services & possible barriers that could prevent access; types of services and how they are developed; principles of care that underpin all care work with clients and the main roles and skills of people who provide care.

Unit 2

This covers: the stages and pattern of human growth and development; the different factors that can affect human growth and development; the development of self-concept and different types of relationships; major life changes and sources of support and personal development and relationships.

Unit number and title		assessment
1	Health, Social Care & Early Years provision	teacher controlled assessment (external moderation)
2	Understanding Personal Development and Relationships	exam—1 hour

The Double Award is made up of four mandatory units – The two from the single award plus the units below

Unit 3 - Promoting Health and Well Being covers (Assessment as unit 1) defining health and well being; interpreting physical measures of health of individuals; factors that have a positive and negative effect on health; and health promotion and improvement methods.

Unit 4 - Safeguarding and Protecting Individuals and covers (Assessment as unit 2) safeguarding individuals; infection control; first aid practice; how to recognise potential risks to safety and assessing risks.

Course contact: Mrs R Blencowe

LEISURE AND TOURISM - VGCSE (double award)

The leisure and tourism industries in the UK provide a variety of activities for people to enjoy in their leisure time. They contribute a significant amount to the wealth of our area as well as providing entertainment and relaxation from school and work. Leisure is what we do in our spare time and it is a fast growing sector of employment.

WHAT WILL I LEARN ON THE COURSE?

The course is divided into three units each worth the same percentage of the final mark.

UNIT 1

On this unit you will learn that the industries are made up of many different facilities and organisations, from leisure centres and theatres to travel agents and airlines. You will consider how leisure and tourism industries are linked and how businesses work together to offer visitors a good service.

UNIT 2

Marketing is an important aspect of today's leisure and tourism industries. Whatever the type of leisure or tourism organisation and its motives for providing products and services, the basic principals are the same. It is about getting the right product to the right people in the right place at the right price and using the right promotion. Marketing is the key to a successful business.

UNIT 3

Without customers the business cannot succeed so this unit looks at how giving customers excellent service plays an important part in helping organisations to keep their existing customers and attract new ones.

Unit number and title	assessment	% of final mark
1	Investigating Leisure & Tourism	external 33. ¹ / ₃
2	Marketing in Leisure & Tourism	internal 33. ¹ / ₃
3	Customer Service in Leisure & Tourism	internal 33. ¹ / ₃

ARE THERE ANY SPECIAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS?

The VGCSE is a double Vocational GCSE award. This is offered as part of the Bridge course along with GCSE retakes in core subjects.

Course contact: Mr P Pellatt

CREATIVE STUDIES - FASHION

(City & Guilds levels 1 & 2)

This is a practical course with no written exam. Fashion can be taken at two levels and each level has two units.

WHAT WILL I LEARN ON THE COURSE?

LEVEL 1

This course is intended for beginners who want to explore the world of fashion and garment making. At this level candidates sample the basic techniques of garment making and gain sufficient expertise to plan, produce and evaluate two simple items, together with a small folder of work covering design features at a simple level.

LEVEL 2

This is a more intensive one year course. It is preferable for the candidate to have prior knowledge of sewing techniques and garment making. Students explore the elements of design more fully by generating and sampling ideas. They then use those ideas to make three individual garments that meet the requirements of the course.

COURSE CONTENT AND METHOD OF ASSESSMENT

Unit number and title		assessment	% total marks
Level 1	C & G 7722-20 Fashion wear		
Unit 1	Design for Craft	coursework	50
Unit 2	Garment Making	coursework	50
Level 2	C & G 7722-02 Fashion wear		
Unit 1	Design for Craft	coursework	50
Unit 2	Garment Making	coursework	50

The above units are mandatory to obtain a full Certificate

ARE THERE ANY SPECIAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS?

The student would be expected to have an interest in fashion and a willingness to learn sewing techniques.

Course contact: Mrs J Johnston

SPORT AND FITNESS

RECREATIONAL PE

Students in the 6th form are encouraged to enjoy sport and exercise, whether as part of a school team or for personal fitness and relaxation.

The newly refurbished swimming pool and gym with fitness suite offer excellent facilities for all.



Those students who are keen on competitive sport have opportunity to represent both their House and the School in a range of competitive fixtures and are expected to undertake regular fitness based exercise within the activities provided.

These activities include:

- Football
- Rugby
- Netball
- Swimming
- Cross-Country
- Athletics
- Cricket
- Fitness Training.

ADVANCED LEVEL COURSES

The sixth form offers a good range of GCE A level subjects including several GCE Applied A levels. The applied courses have a greater emphasis on course work and portfolios so may suit students who find the exams stressful, preferring to work steadily throughout the course. Applied A levels are graded in the same way as traditional A level courses and carry the same points value when applying for higher education.

Entry onto advanced level courses is conditional on students achieving 4 or more GCSEs at grade C or above.

Some subjects do not require the student to have studied it to GCSE standard so provide the opportunity to start a new area of study. **Most subjects do not insist on a grade C at either English or Maths and where necessary these can be retaken alongside advanced level study.**

Courses are divided into two one year options; AS and A2.

Year one:

Students are able to choose up to three (exceptionally 4) AS subjects as well as lessons in English and/or Maths (if required). GCSE subjects can be retaken in November and June.

Year two:

A2 courses are dependant upon gaining a pass grade in at least two of the three AS modules. Students can continue with the same subjects at A2 or alternatively drop subjects and start different AS level courses. Advice is available on subject choices and possible implications for career and higher education choices.

GCE A LEVEL COURSES

Art & Design
Biology
Chemistry
Design & Technology
English Language/literature combined
Geography
History
Maths
Media Studies

Modern Languages
Performance Studies
Physical Education
Physics

APPLIED A LEVEL COURSES

Business Studies
ICT

CAREERS AND PROGRESSION

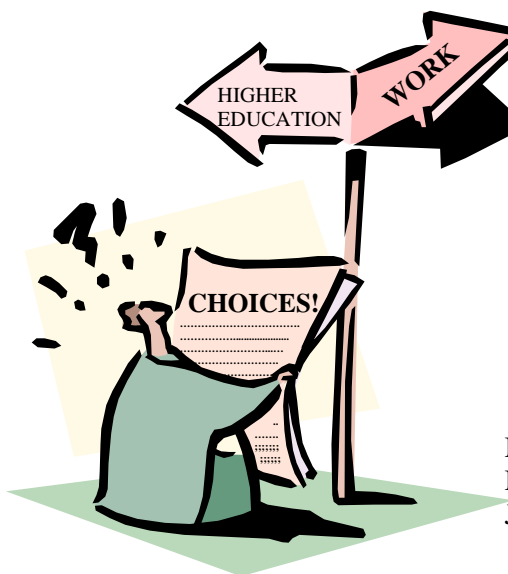
The school have a very active careers department with Mr Gary Pearce, the school careers coordinator, working closely with the school's careers adviser from Hampshire Connexions. All students are offered individual careers interviews and given support to achieve their goals, whether it is to apply to university or enter employment.

Work experience can be arranged on an individual basis to help with applications for higher education, or give valuable skills and confidence for entering the workplace.

The dedicated careers room has a well stocked library including prospectuses from all the UK universities and colleges of Higher Education.

There are also specialist careers software packages to help those students who are less sure about their future direction. Internet access enables the careers staff to assist students with thorough research of their chosen option.

Students looking to enter higher education benefit from attending a large higher education fair run at a local 6th form college. The progression team help students with HE course choice, completion of the online application process and producing the personal statements necessary for application. Where students wish to attend university open days, help is given with online booking and arranging of transport.



Whatever the final destination of our students the progression team work closely together to ensure they have the information, guidance and support to make an informed decision.

Careers and Progression Team

Mr Gary Pearce - Careers Coordinator
Mr Reece Hancock - Head of 6th form
Jane Saunders - Connexions careers adviser

ART & DESIGN - AS/A2

exam board Edexcel

The AS and A2 courses each comprise of two units; one coursework and one exam.

WHAT WILL I LEARN ON THE COURSE?

'AS' students complete the coursework in the Autumn term. This unit comprises drawing, painting, graphics and 3D construction. Research and evaluation is recorded in journals and sketch books. The exam is in the Spring Term.

Marks from the AS course are carried forward to the A2. The second coursework unit includes a 1,000 – 2,000 word research assignment, usually based on an interest developed during the AS course.

In the last two years, projects have included web site design, multi-media story telling; comic / magazine design, stage design, shop design, video game design, sculpture, digital photography, dress design, make-up, life-size sculptures, drawing using a variety of media, murals, signs and painting.

COURSE CONTENT AND METHOD OF ASSESSMENT

Unit number and title		assessment	% total marks	
AS			AS	A
1	Art and Design Coursework	coursework	60	30
2	Art and Design externally set assignment	exam	40	20
A2				
3	Art and Design Coursework	coursework		30
4	Art and Design externally set assignment	exam		20

ARE THERE ANY SPECIAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS?

Previous experience (including a good GCSE pass) is desirable and a serious commitment is expected. Good drawing skills are an advantage but the ability to generate ideas and develop them is more important.

Every year students gain places on Foundation Art courses at leading universities throughout the country.

Course contact: Mr L Nicholson

BIOLOGY - AS/A2

exam board Edexcel

Biology will appeal to students who have an interest in the study of living organisms and enjoy carrying out investigation in the laboratory or as fieldwork.

WHAT WILL I LEARN ON THE COURSE?

- Gain a greater understanding of biological facts along with an appreciation of their significance in new and challenging situations.
- Develop your skills in practical work and the link between theory and experimental work.
- Develop an understanding of the connections between facts, principles and concepts from different areas of biology.
- To recognize the value and responsible use of biology in society.

COURSE CONTENT AND METHOD OF ASSESSMENT

Unit number and title		assessment	% total marks	
AS			AS	A
1	Lifestyle, Transport, Genes and Health	examination	40	20
2	Development, Plants and The Environment	examination	40	20
3	Practical Biology and Research Skills (produce a report 1500—2000 words)	internally assessed	20	10
A2				
4	The Natural Environment & Species Survival	examination		20
5	Energy, Exercise and Coordination	examination		20
6	Practical Biology and Investigative Skills (individual investigation & Report)	internally assessed		10

ARE THERE ANY SPECIAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS?

This is a new specification for 2008 onwards. Students wishing to study Biology to AS or A level should have successfully completed either GCSE dual award science or GCSE biology and gained at least a C grade.

Course contact: Dr C Hughes

Applied Business is studied as a single award being equivalent to one A level. The applied course is predominantly course work based and tends to suit the learning styles of students.

WHAT WILL I LEARN ON THE COURSE?

The course offers a broad vocational introduction to business whilst also allowing for some specialism in areas such as marketing, financial management and human resource management.

You will be encouraged to:

- Become an independent learner as you develop knowledge and understanding in realistic business contexts.
- Develop research skills to build your portfolios.
- Develop key skills in numeracy, literacy and ICT.

COURSE CONTENT AND METHOD OF ASSESSMENT

Unit number and title		assessment	% total marks	
AS			AS	A
1	Creating a marketing proposal	Portfolio	33 ¹ / ₃	16 ² / ₃
2	Recruitment in the workplace	Portfolio	33 ¹ / ₃	16 ² / ₃
3	Understanding the business environment	External	33 ¹ / ₃	16 ² / ₃
A2				
9	Strategic decision-making	External		16 ² / ₃
10	A business plan for the entrepreneur	Portfolio		16 ² / ₃
	Optional unit	Portfolio		16 ² / ₃

The above courses are mandatory. One additional unit will be selected from a range of options.

ARE THERE ANY SPECIAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS?

You will be expected to have gained several GCSE passes at A* - C. You will need to have studied GCSE business studies.

Course contact: Mr G Pearce

Chemistry is one of the core sciences and an essential subject for several careers in both science, engineering and the health sciences professions.

WHAT WILL I LEARN ON THE COURSE?

The course aims to stimulate and sustain students' interest in, and enjoyment of, chemistry and to:

- Enable them to gain a knowledge and understanding of the subject.
- Show the value of the subject to society and how it may be used responsibly.
- Develop experimental skills in using laboratory procedures.

COURSE CONTENT AND METHOD OF ASSESSMENT

Unit number and title		assessment	% total marks	
AS			AS	A
1	The Core Principles of Chemistry	Exam	40	20
2	Application of Core Principles of Chemistry	Exam	40	20
3	Chemistry Laboratory Skills	Internal assessment	20	10
A2				
4	Rates, Equilibria, & Further Organic Chemistry	Exam		20
5	Transition Metals & Organic Nitrogen chemistry	Exam		20
6	Chemistry Laboratory Skills	Internal assessment		10

ARE THERE ANY SPECIAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS?

This is the new specification from 2008 onwards. Students need to be well motivated and have gained a GCSE grade C in either dual award science or chemistry. Some mathematical skills are necessary but students will be considered without C in GCSE mathematics, although they would be encouraged to retake the GCSE maths course.

Course contact: Mr M Roberts

3D product design (Syllabus 2009/10)

The specification has been designed to encourage candidates to take a broad view of technology and design, to develop their capacity to design and make products and to appreciate the complex relations between design, materials, manufacture and marketing.

WHAT WILL I LEARN ON THE COURSE?

The subject content is intended to reflect the wide-ranging activities of professional designers and covers a wide range of materials. Graphical communication methods are an integral part of any Design and Technology work and it is important that candidates can communicate their thinking clearly and represent their ideas graphically. The course seeks to:

- Encourage candidates to take a broad view of design and technology.
- Develop candidates' capacity to design and make products and to appreciate the complex relations between design, materials, manufacture and marketing.

COURSE CONTENT AND METHOD OF ASSESSMENT

Unit number and title		assessment	% total marks	
AS			AS	A
1	Materials and Components	Written paper	30	15
2	Project work &/or portfolio - aspects of commercial practice	Coursework approx 40 hours	40	20
3	Design and Market Influence - question based on theme from AQA	Written paper	30	15
A2				
4	Tests the ability to analyse, synthesise & draw conclusions from in depth study of the designing and making of product.	Project study approx 20 hours		15
5	Single integrated coursework - using any material/combination of materials.	Course project Approx 50 hours		15
6		Written paper		20

ARE THERE ANY SPECIAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS?

It is preferable to have the GCSE in Design Technology but students entering sixth form with a proven practical ability and good standard of maths will be considered.

Course contact: Mr R Hancock

English Language and Literature combines these two subjects to form a single award. It allows you to study literature and also develop creative writing skills used at GCSE level. This year we are in transition between two syllabuses: AS is the new syllabus, A2 is the old syllabus

WHAT WILL I LEARN ON THE COURSE?

The course offers a range of books, from Shakespeare to modern novels and poetry. It also allows you to write your own texts and analyse them using linguistic knowledge. You also get to study real life language.

You will be encouraged to:

- Work independently on your own coursework, drawing on your own interests and skills.
- Develop research skills.
- Develop key skills in Literacy and ICT.

Unit number and title		assessment	% total marks	
AS			AS	A
1	Introduction to Language and Literature Study (the Anthology)	exam	60	30
2	The Changing Language of Literature	coursework	40	20
A2				
4	Text transformation	coursework		15
5	Talk in Life and Literature	exam		15
6	Critical Approaches	exam		20

COURSE CONTENT AND METHOD OF ASSESSMENT

You have to take all of the above courses.

ARE THERE ANY SPECIAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS?

You will be expected to have at least a grade 'C' in English at GCSE. It would be an advantage to have English Literature at grade 'C'.

Course contact: Dr F Myszor

GEOGRAPHY - AS/A2

exam board AQA 5031/6031

As mankind expects more and more from the natural world, geography provides a vital understanding of the conflicts between the two and ways of overcoming them.

WHAT WILL I LEARN ON THE COURSE?

- A knowledge of the processes and features of our natural and human environment.
- An understanding of the problems facing both the developed and developing world.
- An understanding of the role governments and organisations play in our world.
- An appreciation of the importance of sustainable development.

COURSE CONTENT AND METHOD OF ASSESSMENT

The AS course explores a combination of human and physical geography and examines the way they interact. The A2 develops these themes whilst covering a number of topics including biodiversity, development and globalisation.

Unit number and title		assessment	% total marks	
AS			AS	A
	Core concepts in Physical Geography	Examination	35	17.5
	Core concepts in Human Geography	Examination	35	17.5
	Geographical Skills	Examination	30	15
A2				
	Challenge & Change in the Natural Environment	Examination		15
	Challenge & Change in the Human Environment	Examination		15
	Fieldwork Investigation	Coursework		20

ARE THERE ANY SPECIAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS?

You should ideally have several GCSE passes at grade A* - C but it is not necessary to have studied geography at GCSE. A reasonable level of maths is helpful.

Course contact: Mr P Pellatt

HISTORY - AS/A2

exam board Edexcel

In changing times History is a crucial subject. It allows you to understand how the world has become what it is, and your place in it.

History develops your ability to think critically to evaluate sources, and reach conclusions based on evidence. It teaches you to identify and assess different interpretations and opinions about the past: all valuable skills for the present!

WHAT WILL I LEARN ON THE COURSE?

The study of history is more than just acquiring knowledge about past events. The subject will enable you to:

- Communicate knowledge and understanding of the periods of history you study.
- Develop your understanding of historical terms and concepts.
- Understand the nature of historical evidence and the methods used to analyse and evaluate.
- Learn how to make judgements based on available evidence and understand that views may change with new evidence.
- Develop the ability to analyse.

COURSE CONTENT AND METHOD OF ASSESSMENT

Unit number and title		assessment	% total marks	
AS			AS	A
1	Historical Breadth Study - Russia 1881 - 1953	Examination	50	25
2	British History Depth Study - Britain and Ireland 1867-1922	Examination	50	25
A2				
3	Depth Study and associated Historical controversies	Examination		30
4	Historical Enquiry	Coursework		20

ARE THERE ANY SPECIAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS?

You should have an enthusiasm for the subject and be interested in developing research skills and producing essays. You would normally have several GCSE passes at grade A* - C but you do not necessarily need to have studied history at GCSE.

Course contact: Mrs A J Visser

ICT - APPLIED AS/A2

exam board OCR

This applied course is an 'A' Level, but is mostly assessed through coursework. There is an emphasis on how ICT is used in business and the skills and knowledge gained will be of real value when in employment.

WHAT WILL I LEARN ON THE COURSE?

You will learn to be ICT capable by:

- Expanding your knowledge and understanding.
- Learning how to problem solve and evaluate.
- Gaining a broad understanding of ICT and related issues.

The emphasis is on the use of ICT in real organisations and you will become familiar with the application of ICT in a business environment.

COURSE CONTENT AND METHOD OF ASSESSMENT

You will be assessed on what you do, rather than through exams. Only one unit will be assessed by written exam.

Unit number and title		assessment	% total marks	
AS			AS	A
	Using ICT to Communicate	portfolio	33 ¹ / ₃	16 ² / ₃
	How Organisations use ICT	portfolio	33 ¹ / ₃	16 ² / ₃
	ICT Solutions for Individuals and Society	Examined by the board	33 ¹ / ₃	16 ² / ₃
A2				
	Working to a Brief	portfolio		16 ² / ₃
	Interactive Multimedia Products	portfolio		16 ² / ₃
	Developing and Creating Websites	portfolio		16 ² / ₃

ARE THERE ANY SPECIAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS?

We do not expect pupils to have passed GCSE ICT before they start the A level, but they must have the minimum number of GCSE passes for entry into the sixth form. You need to be prepared to work steadily and meet deadlines for work. Course work is not a soft option.

Course contact: Mr P Neethling

MATHEMATICS - AS/A2

exam board Edexcel

The course aims to help you to develop your understanding of mathematical principles. You will acquire the foundation necessary for further study of mathematics and other disciplines and develop the ability to recognise real-life situations which can be modelled mathematically.

WHAT WILL I LEARN ON THE COURSE?

- Extend your range of mathematical skills and techniques and use them to solve problems.
- Gain the appropriate knowledge of procedures to be followed in order to produce useful results.
- Develop an understanding of coherence and progression in mathematics and of how different areas of mathematics can be connected.
- Use maths as an effective means of communication.
- Develop an awareness of the relevance of maths to other areas of study and to the world of work and society in general.
- Develop confidence and enthusiasm in your approach to the subject.

COURSE CONTENT AND METHOD OF ASSESSMENT

Unit number and title		assessment	% total marks	
AS			AS	A
1	Core mathematics - C1	Exam	33 ¹ / ₃	16 ² / ₃
2	Core mathematics - C2	Exam	33 ¹ / ₃	16 ² / ₃
3	Mechanics or statistics	Exam	33 ¹ / ₃	16 ² / ₃
A2				
4	Core mathematics - C3	Exam		16 ² / ₃
5	Core mathematics - C4	Exam		16 ² / ₃
6	Mechanics or statistics	Exam		16 ² / ₃

ARE THERE ANY SPECIAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS?

Students are required to have studied mathematics at GCSE and have achieved a minimum of grade B from the higher tier paper.

Further Mathematics is available to the most able A level pupils.

Course contact: Mrs S Taylor

MEDIA STUDIES - AS/A2

exam board AQA.

The influence of media is all around us, from radio and television, to newspapers and magazines, street advertising and the internet.

Media studies aims to encourage a critical knowledge of the key concepts of the media. You will look at the theories behind the media and how it impacts upon the lives of both individuals and groups.

WHAT WILL I LEARN ON THE COURSE?

You will be encouraged to study a variety of topic areas which will include film, broadcast fiction, documentary, advertising and marketing, British newspapers, the production and manufacture of news, representation, genres and radio. The study of these areas will enable you to:

- Engage with theory, research and ideas relating to the media.
- Develop research skills.
- Show that you can work independently.
- Communicate effectively in a written form and via a media technology.

COURSE CONTENT AND METHOD OF ASSESSMENT

The course is divided into 4 modules; 2 at AS level and 2 at A2 level.

Module number and title		assessment	% total marks	
			AS	A
AS				
MEST 1	Investigating Media	examination	50	25
MEST 2	Creating Media	coursework	50	25
A2				
MEST 3	topics set by the exam board	examination		50
MEST 4	Practical production	coursework		50

ARE THERE ANY SPECIAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS?

You will normally be expected to have gained a C grade in English but you do not need to have studied media studies at GCSE.

Course contact: Mrs A Doherty

MODERN LANGUAGES - GCSE & AS/A2

There are opportunities available to pupils wishing to study a foreign language as French and Spanish are offered to advanced level GCE.

GCSE there is an opportunity to retake a GCSE to gain a higher grade or to commence a language GCSE. This can be either a one or two year course.

AS/A2 LEVEL STUDY

The school makes every effort to accommodate the study of a modern foreign language to A level for students with a special flair for languages. Where students whose native language is not the language they wish to study, there may be an opportunity to do an AS level course, timetable permitting.

Both AS and A2 courses include a high level of language attainment and provide students with a good grasp of another country's culture.

In recent years the department has offered French to AS and A level. Spanish will also be offered to AS level from September 2008 and German may be taken privately with Mrs Link, the school Librarian.

COURSE CONTENT AND METHOD OF ASSESSMENT

This will vary with the subject and syllabus but all courses are a combination of written work and oral assessment. The AS can be taken over one or two years.

ARE THERE ANY SPECIAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS?

A good standard at GCSE would normally be required or evidence that the student is able to work to the standard of the course.

Course contact: Miss J Hughes

Bonne Chance

Viel Glück

Buena Suerte

This course aims to develop three main areas of musical experience: Performing, Composing and Analysing, as well as developing an understanding of the historical and contextual uses of music.

WHAT WILL I LEARN ON THE COURSE?

The course aims to enable students to:

- Extend the skills, knowledge and understanding needed to communicate through music and take part in music making.
- Engage in, and extend the appreciation of the diverse and dynamic heritage of music, promoting spiritual and cultural developments.
- Develop particular strengths and interests encouraging life-long learning and providing access to music-related and other careers.
- Understand the links between the activities of performing/realising, composing and appraising.

COURSE CONTENT AND METHOD OF ASSESSMENT

Unit number and title		assessment	% total marks	
AS			AS	A
1	Performing Music	internally assessed	30	15
2	Composing	externally assessed	30	15
3	Developing Musical Understanding	externally assessed	40	20
A2				
4	Extended Performance	internally assessed		15
5	Composition and Technical Study	externally assessed		15
6	Further Musical Understanding	externally assessed		20

ARE THERE ANY SPECIAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS?

An interest in music and an ability to both perform and understand musical theory. Students without GCSE can commence the A level if they have evidence of other music assessments to the required standard.

Course contact: Miss M Williams

This course aims to establish an approach to performance which is multi-disciplinary and develops qualities of imagination, sensitivity and artistic knowledge/ understanding. Performance Studies is about group performances, unlike its sister subject Theatre Studies, which is about plays.

WHAT WILL I LEARN ON THE COURSE?

You will:

- Develop skills as a performer, understanding of the processes leading to performance, knowledge of performance contexts and the various possible relationships between performer and audience.
- Develop knowledge and understanding of performance texts, genres and practitioners in the performing arts.
- Use imagination, creativity and sensitivity in the performance contests, together with the ability to work individually and in groups to the requirements of the performance situation.
- Develop practical independence, self-management and improve performance over time.

COURSE CONTENT AND METHOD OF ASSESSMENT

Unit number and title		assessment	% total marks	
AS			AS	A
1	Creating performance (G401)	portfolio	70	35
2	Performance contexts 1 (G402)	examination	30	15
A2				
3	Performance contexts 2 (G403)	examination		15
4	Performance Project (G404)	performance		35

ARE THERE ANY SPECIAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS?

This course is new for 2008. Some knowledge of Music and Dance as well as Drama is required for this subject

This has proved a positive and realistic course of study for pupils at Stanbridge, who are often creative and talented in performance areas.

Course contact: Mrs K Richardson

WHAT WILL I LEARN ON THE COURSE?

The P.E. course takes a multi-disciplinary approach, encouraging the development of different methods of enquiry, with the focal point being the student having the opportunity to develop their performance in two chosen roles from three. The roles are either performer, official (referee./ umpire) and or leader (coach).

COURSE CONTENT AND METHOD OF ASSESSMENT

You will learn about the interaction between the theory and practice of P.E. In the AS, unit one is theoretical and examines the development of competitive sport, learning how a lifelong involvement with sport is encouraged. The second unit focuses upon the critical sports performer and set four coursework tasks and developing a portfolio.

At A2 the first unit examines ‘preparation for optimum sports performance’ developing knowledge and understanding of long and short term, physiological and psychological preparation made by elite athletes. The second unit encourages the student to select and specialise in one of the three performance roles and extend their knowledge and understanding from an international perspective via a portfolio of four selected tasks.

Unit number and title		assessment	% total marks	
AS			AS	A
1	Participation in Sport and Recreation	exam - 1 hr 30 min.	50	25
2	The Critical Sports Performer	Internally assessed with CD ROM Portfolio	50	25
A2				
4	Preparation for Optimum sports Performance	exam - 2 hours		25
5	The Developing Sports Performer	Internally assessed with CD ROM Portfolio		25

ARE THERE ANY SPECIAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS?

You will generally need to have several GCSEs at grades A* - C. Although it is not necessary to have studied the subject to GCSE a proven interest in sport is needed.

Course contact: Mr G Taylor

The course is designed to show the usefulness of physics and to illustrate the kind of impact that discoveries in physics have had on the way people live.

WHAT WILL I LEARN ON THE COURSE?

- Develop essential knowledge and understanding in physics.
- Develop an understanding of the link between theory and experiment.
- Appreciate how physics has developed and is used in present day society.
- Understand how physics links with social, philosophical, economic, industrial and environmental matters.
- Maintain and develop an enjoyment of, and interest in, physics.

COURSE CONTENT AND METHOD OF ASSESSMENT

The course consists of 3 mandatory units at AS and three further mandatory units at A2. Two of the AS and two of the A2 units are externally assessed. The third AS units and third A2 unit are internally assessed and will include the assessment of practical skills.

Unit number and title		assessment	% total marks	
AS			AS	A
	Physics in Action	Written exam - 1 hr	30	15
	Understanding Processes	Written exam -1 hr 45 min.	50	25
	Coursework—physics in practice	Internally assessed	20	10
A2				
	The Rise and fall of the Clockwork Universe	Written exam -1 hr 15 min.		15
	Field and Particle Pictures	Written exam - 2 hrs.		25
	coursework—Researching physics	practical investigation to produce research briefing		10

ARE THERE ANY SPECIAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS?

A range of GCSE subjects at grade A* - C to include maths and science. Additional science from the higher tier at grade CC or higher is preferable.

Course contact: Mrs L Upson

For further information please contact Mrs Anne Spicer the School Registrar



Stanbridge
Earls School

Stanbridge Earls School Romsey Hampshire SO51 0ZS UK

Tel: +44 (0)1794 529400

Fax: +44 (0)1794 511201

Stanbridge School Ltd. Registered in England No. 510675 Registered Charity No. 307342

www.stanbridgeearls.co.uk