



REDCOMB
COLLEGE
NURSERY • JUNIOR • SENIOR

Sixth Form at Rendcomb College

Thoughtful. Adventurous. Ambitious







Welcome from the Head of College, Mr Rob Jones

You have chosen a fantastic time to consider Sixth Form at Rendcomb College. Academic standards are higher than ever, taught by one of the most qualified teaching staff I have ever worked with and housed in a new Sixth Form Centre where the pupils can live, work and thrive.

I am passionate about preparing pupils for life and we have built upon a strong pastoral and academic offering with focused careers guidance; opportunities to network; the chance to run a business; complete work experience and to even run and shape the College itself. In these changing times, it is more important than ever for schools to deliver an outstanding education; one which promotes a love of learning alongside the development of values that young people need to be successful in the world. You are preparing for a career that has yet to be invented, so while exceptional exam results are required, so too is a depth of character.

At Rendcomb College, we believe that you need to experience a range of opportunities and challenges on your way towards a successful life after school and this means that enrichment and the co-curriculum feature highly in developing the whole person. There will be challenges that stretch the comfort zone but we are proud of being a supportive 'family' community who look out for one another. Put simply, we develop the whole person and give them the freedom to fly or fail where the latter stands for 'First Attempt In Learning.' You can choose from traditional or vocational subjects and, thanks to the small size of the College, are given the individual attention you need. Size means we can tailor, and adapt, our approach to ensure that each and every pupil reaches their potential.

Subjects are enriched with opportunities to ensure breadth and depth such as the Extended Project Qualification, a

varied range of academic societies or even through C3 programme where you develop Creation, Collaboration and Communication. In a small school, you will also get the opportunity to lead; through sport, the performing arts, outdoor education or even through the School Council and committees. You will learn that leadership goes hand in hand with service and all pupils 'give back' in ways that range from the Sports Leaders Qualification to teaching in the Junior School, or helping in our partner schools.

We also give you the opportunity to spend time in our stylish on-site cottage, Garden House. Here you will take on the challenge of independent living, managing your time, balancing a food budget and even washing your own clothes.

Every day you will meet with a dedicated tutor who will work with you, monitor your progress and encourage you to try new things and to follow your passions. At Rendcomb College, we want you to be a thoughtful, adventurous and ambitious student who is ready to build on your GCSE successes in a caring family environment.



Your Sixth Form

Pick three Academic Subjects		
Art	Economics	Photography
Biology	English Literature	Physics
Business Studies (BTEC)	French	Psychology
Chemistry	Further Maths	Spanish
Computer Science	Geography	Sport (BTEC)
Design Technology	History	
Drama and Theatre Studies	Maths	
	Music	

Enrichment Core		
Creation, Collaboration & Communication Programme (C ³)	Leadership & Service Programme (LSP)	Sixth Form Lecture Series

Enrichment Options		
Stretch and Challenge	Personalised Support	Co-curricular Opportunities
Arts Award Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) Med-Vet Society Oxbridge Preparation Pathway (OPP) Suffolk Group	Athlete Performance Programme (APP) EAL Elevate Study Skills GCSE English/Maths Retake	Duke of Edinburgh Award (D of E) Enterprise Sports Leader Qualification





Choosing your academic subjects

Mr Nick Cox, Deputy Head (Academic)

Our Sixth Form curriculum has evolved in recent years to reflect the changing nature of qualifications. The Sixth Form subject choices available at Rendcomb College enable you to create a programme of study tailored to suit your interests, aptitudes and aspirations. They also allow you to build a competitive portfolio for employment or university, including Oxbridge entry.

A wide range of subjects are available and full details can be found at the back of this booklet. Universities make offers based on three subjects and we believe that focusing on this number will lead to improved grades. You will select three academic subject choices and these will be complemented by an enrichment core and options.

When choosing your subjects, we encourage you to seek the advice of subject teachers, Heads of Department, tutors


and the Head of the Sixth Form to ensure that your choices are appropriate to your academic aptitude and your future aspirations. I would encourage you to consider the following factors: how the course is structured and examined; where your interests and strengths lie; and how the course will support your future studies or career aspirations.

Entry Requirements

Entry to Rendcomb College Sixth Form requires you to have achieved **five grades 4 - 9 at GCSE with a grade 6 in each subject studied at A Level.**

For **Mathematics and Science**, we recommend you have a **grade 7 at GCSE.**

You must also achieve **grade 4 or above in GCSE English Language/Literature and Maths** or you will be supported to resit.

A young man with curly hair, wearing a dark suit jacket, a light blue shirt, and a dark tie, is sitting at a desk in a classroom. He is looking directly at the camera with a slight smile. The background shows a classroom setting with a framed picture on the wall and a desk with a pen and paper.

“The best part of being in a small school is that the teachers are always available to help if you need it.”

Ruairi, Year 12



The Enrichment Core

Mrs Christine Williams, Head of Sixth Form

This is an exciting time to join the Sixth Form at Rendcomb. Our new Sixth Form Centre offers a dedicated Sixth Form building with large

amounts of flexible study space, social areas and changing facilities. Here you will be able to develop healthy and effective study habits from the start of the Sixth Form and you will enjoy the space and facilities to relax during breaks and lunchtimes.

In addition to small class sizes and individualised support leading to academic success, you will benefit from a structured 'enrichment core' of C³, the Leadership and Service Programme, and Sixth Form Lecture Series, developing you beyond your academic potential and preparing you for your next steps.

C³ (C Cubed) Programme

C³ stands for Creation, Collaboration and Communication. This is a weekly session giving you the opportunity to practise note-taking, research, debating, public speaking and team work skills through a carousel of enriching topics. Through ICT functional skills, political literacy and applied psychology you will become more aware of and prepared for life beyond Rendcomb.

Leadership and Service Programme (LSP)

The Leadership and Service Programme incorporates areas such as the School Prefect Programme, Buddy Scheme and Community Links Programme.

Leadership is an integral part of Sixth Form life and you are given the opportunity to act as a leader in a variety of areas.

The school prefects and the Heads of School are chosen after an application and interview process. They take on major leadership roles throughout the College and speak regularly at important occasions, working alongside the staff in the running of the College. Some prefects have specific roles in the boarding houses and act as listeners and advisers.

Students who are not part of the prefect team still have many opportunities to lead within the school. Sixth Formers sit on school committees such as the School Council, the Food Committee, the Sports Committee and various social committees. The Buddy Scheme enables Sixth Formers to pair up with a Year 7 or Year 8 pupil to offer support and friendship. Sixth Formers meet with their buddies regularly and events include a Buddy Quiz and a Buddy BBQ.

Sixth Form students are also an essential part of departmental activities. You are guided and supported by academic staff. Recent examples of this leadership include the student led production of *Pillowman* and the establishment of The Bioethics Debating Society.



You will gain work experience outside of the College from the weekly Community Links programme. Here we work with our partners in the community, primary schools and care homes, enhancing your personal and interpersonal development by learning through experience. It provides opportunities for self-determination and collaboration with others, fostering a sense of accomplishment and enjoyment from your work.

“The Community Links programme has really helped me get out of my comfort zone and build my confidence through volunteering at local primary schools.”

Emily, Year 13

Sixth Form Lecture Series

We run a full programme of enrichment in the Sixth Form inviting motivational guest speakers to share their skills and experiences with you. These events are designed to expose you to intellectual and cultural challenges outside your immediate academic disciplines. All Sixth Formers attend such events and you are encouraged to initiate and organise your own events.

Examples of guest speakers:

- Ella Al-Shamahi, paleoanthropologist and archaeologist; dodging landmines in the name of science. National Geographic Explorer and stand-up comedian (pictured right).
- Tim Oakley and Alex Hibbert, Arctic explorers.
- Nik Powell, founder of Virgin Records and Director of the National Film and Television School.
- Kyle Garlett, from heart transplant to Iron Man Triathlon.
- Pamela Armstrong, the history of women in TV.
- Angela Findley, ‘Crime, Prisons and Offenders - the role the Arts can play.’

New Sixth Form Centre

In 2020 we opened a new Sixth Form Centre in the heart of our campus. The Centre is located in the Grade II listed ‘Old Rectory’, close to the Strength and Conditioning Suite, Griffin Theatre and classrooms. It hosts fabulous study spaces, recreational areas and kitchen facilities.





The Enrichment Options

Mr Jonnie Howorth, Deputy Head (Pastoral)

Extended Project Qualification

The Extended Project Qualification is offered in addition to our A Levels. The qualification allows you

to embark on a largely self-directed and self-motivated project. You must choose a topic, plan, research and develop your idea and decide on your finished project. The qualification provides a context for developing critical thinking and project management skills; skills which are widely transferable. The qualification also enables pupils to gain up to 28 UCAS points and is highly valued by universities.

Oxbridge

If you aspire to apply to Oxford or Cambridge, we support and encourage you throughout your journey by the Oxbridge Preparation Pathway (OPP). You will work with teachers in your subject area to develop your skills and to extend and challenge you in your chosen subject. Candidates are identified early in the Lower Sixth; after an introduction to the OPP they are allocated a subject mentor and automatically enrolled in the 'Suffolk Group.' In Year 12, you visit Oxford University to gain an insight into the Oxbridge process and experience. In Moving On week, you have seminars and bespoke sessions to work on your application action plan. Following this, in the first term of the Upper Sixth, those applying for Oxford or Cambridge will have a formal mock interview involving an outside expert.

Suffolk Group

Our academic activity group meets regularly to explore beyond the curriculum and harness debating and critical thinking skills. The Michaelmas Term culminates in the

production of a student led debate for the Sixth Form, based on the ESU Mace Debating format, with some students choosing to enter the ESU debating competition. The Lent Term focuses on research methods leading to a small scale project, with critical thinking in the Summer Term.

“MedVet gives you a head start by covering topics beyond A Level studies. We debate topical issues as well as our own specialist interests.”

Jack, Year 13

MedVet Society

MedVet is a Society for any aspiring medics, vets or any student interested in related careers, such as Pharmacology, Immunology, Zoology and Healthcare sciences. Sessions involve exploring and discussing NHS 'Hot Topics', the Four Pillars of Medical Ethics, the issues facing the NHS and the role of the media in medical communication. You also spend time researching your own areas of interest such as rare diseases or treatments in current research. You then present your findings to the Society. For those applying for Medicine or Veterinary Science themselves, we practise interview questions and MMI (multi mini interview) circuit scenarios, as well as preparing for BMAT/UCAT entrance tests. We also discuss merits and requirements of work experience and draw out examples of skill development involved, ready for UCAS applications and interviews.



Gold Arts Award

This qualification carries 16 additional UCAS points and involves delivering an arts event and creating a portfolio. You must develop your arts practice through research and experimentation.

Enterprise

We offer the Young Enterprise scheme to our Sixth Form pupils. This national initiative allows you to form a legally trading business where you come up with the business idea and then run the company yourself with the support of an external Business Advisor. You learn many transferrable skills in the process, starting with team work and communication and building into public speaking and decision making. At the end of the year, you can keep any profits earned but are also responsible for any losses accrued! This is suitable for pupils of all subject specialisms as there is a wide range of skills required. Roles include IT, sales, marketing, finance, design, operations and human resources.

Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award

The College offers the Duke of Edinburgh's Award to Gold standard. This involves expeditions to locations such as Dartmoor, Exmoor and the Black Mountains. The award gives you the chance to experience something completely new and improve on things you are already doing. It takes you out of your comfort zone and into a place where you will push yourself and have amazing new experiences.

Colleges, universities and employers regard a Duke of Edinburgh's Award highly, and it will help to enhance future opportunities. Through the programme, you will develop the skills and attitudes needed to become a rounded and confident adult, preparing you for a lifetime of achievement.

Sports Leadership Qualification (SLQ)

Sports Leadership Level 3 is a nationally recognised qualification. It enables successful learners to independently lead purposeful and enjoyable sport/physical activity. Achieving this qualification will give you an additional 16 UCAS points.

Last year 27 students achieved D of E Awards, 7 of which were Gold



“D of E has given me confidence and resilience to persevere through pretty much anything. The skills I learn will help with my studies and life.”

Poppy, Year 13



Supporting your Next Steps

As a Sixth Form student, you will be allocated a tutor who will see you every morning for registration and once a week for a PSHE/Careers lesson. The tutor has an overview of your academic performance and will regularly discuss your attainment and studies. The daily registration slot is an important time for tutors to deliver notices and get to know their tutees. Tutors and students often engage in regular activities in this fifteen minute session, such as discussing current affairs, or completing crosswords and brainteasers.

“The Oxbridge Preparation Pathway and mentoring has really helped prepare me for interview and pre-interview assessments. The Suffolk group and personalised Moving On week session has really strengthened my confidence about my application.”

Rosie, Year 13



Progression to higher education begins early in Year 12. In the Michaelmas Term of Year 12 all students attend a careers fair, representing a range of universities and apprenticeships, and attend talks on applying to Oxbridge, student finance and university life. From January there is a weekly careers lesson with your tutor and you will explore a range of careers and subjects, devise a CV and consider covering letters. You will have advice in organising a work experience placement for the summer. This preparation culminates in ‘Moving On’ week in the final week of Year 12. In this week, you will visit a university, participate in workshops on employability skills, personal safety and personal statement writing, and have the opportunity to hear about universities, gap years, and apprenticeships. By the end of the week you will be well informed about the options available to you, and will have started a UCAS application.

In order to help you make decisions on your future, as a Sixth Form student you will benefit from speakers who discuss a range of topics and their experiences in a particular career. There are also regular Networking Events, hosted by the College, where Sixth Formers can find out more about a variety of careers, practise networking skills and make contacts for work experience.

When you return in Upper Sixth, you will make applications to universities, with applications submitted by the end of the Michaelmas Term. Whilst the majority of our students apply to UK universities, an increasing number are also applying to US universities and are fully supported in understanding and completing this process. PSHE lessons in this term focus on completing applications and then on preparing for the next steps, budgeting and student finance.



Scholarships

You can apply for a number of scholarships in Year 12 including Academic, Art, Music, Drama and Sport. Awards generally range from 5% to 25%.

Full details of all of our scholarships are available on our website and in our Scholarship Information Booklet. Assessments will take in place in January preceding the year of entry. The scholarships are open to UK residents only.

Scholarships are based on the assessment of a pupil's potential and the value that we believe they will add to the life of our school.

The number of individual scholarships awarded each year depends solely on the calibre of the candidates. There is no limit to the number of scholarships the school awards; Rendcomb looks for a level of excellence in order to award a scholarship.



“Having the opportunity to join the Rendcomb family as a Centenary scholar is like no other. The ability to link back to the school’s 100 year history and the original students who had the same opportunity as me is incredible.”

Oliver, Year 13

100% Centenary Scholarships

In addition, up to three pupils joining Year 12 are also awarded our new 100% Centenary Scholarships which are fully-funded places. Applicants must take part in our Year 12 Academic Scholarship process.

Though not a prerequisite of application, preference will be given to candidates who fulfil the following:

- Pupils who offer an additional significant extracurricular contribution and will participate fully whilst at Rendcomb
- Pupils who take exams in one sitting at the end of Year 11
- Pupils who have always been educated in the state sector
- Pupils for whom independent education would be financially unachievable (means testing may be required).

“I love the teaching here. There are great resources, and I am given the guidance and freedom to choose the art I want to produce.”

Finn, Sixth Form Art Scholar



The Arts

Drama is a thriving and exciting part of life at Rendcomb College. Productions alternate between plays and musical theatre each year, with recent productions of *We Will Rock You* and *The Crucible*. You have the opportunity to work with industry professionals and use our 350 seat Griffin Theatre to become involved in all disciplines: acting, stage management, costume and props, lighting and sound. You may wish to become a Director of Drama Club, or a Dance Captain working on major productions. Sixth Formers also have access to the London Drama Tour and a full range of theatre trips and practitioner workshops, with visits from George Dillon (Berkoff) and Frantic Assembly. All interests are encouraged and opportunities are limitless.

The Music department at Rendcomb is a vibrant and ambitious place. It always resonates to the sounds of individual lessons, choirs, rock groups, ensembles, workshops, and thought-provoking academic lessons. We are delighted to be able to offer opportunities to everyone at any stage in their musical journey. Our top-flight musicians, intent on professional careers, will perform concertos with professional orchestras to great acclaim or give solo recitals in Cheltenham, whilst those who play for love, at any point in their school career, are encouraged and challenged to achieve their personal goals and ambitions. The department is an exciting and stimulating place to be, with something on offer for everybody.

60% of students study a musical instrument during their time at Rendcomb College.



Sport

You will benefit from a positive experience when involved in one of the many sports on offer in the Sixth Form at Rendcomb College. Participating in our extensive sporting programme will allow you to explore leadership roles, discover the intricacies of being part of team, develop as a person and, more importantly, enjoy playing sport. The variety of sports available are wide ranging and we believe that we offer something for everyone. All our sports are delivered by highly qualified coaches to ensure that you receive the best tuition in order to improve and develop your sporting skills.

Our main games options are: Tennis, Hockey, Lacrosse, Rugby and Cricket. Alternatively, we offer you the opportunity to compete in other sports such as: Badminton, Basketball and Clay-pigeon shooting.

You can also take advantage of our newly refurbished performance gym, where we deliver an intensive strength and conditioning programme. The gym is also open for general use by Sixth Formers throughout the week.

“The sports options are great and the coaches are positive and knowledgeable. They will push you to be your best.”

Ellie, Year 13

Athlete Performance Programme (APP)

The APP gives those selected the opportunity to really push themselves, not only physically but on a mental level too. The programme provides a personal gym training programme for each athlete, explores mental toughness, problem solving and the well-being aspects needed to operate at a performance level.



Boarding

Lawn and Stable Houses host dedicated boarding for our Sixth Form students. A passionate team of staff ensures that you will be supported both academically and pastorally, enabling you to fulfil your potential.

You will have your own room and study space alongside the Sixth Form common room and kitchen facilities, where you can relax and unwind.

Set in the heart of the Colleges stunning 230 acre campus, our new Sixth Form Centre provides additional studying and relaxation areas. We invite Sixth Formers to visit The Crypt Bar, our onsite social, which is open twice a week; and outside of school we host a variety of evening and weekend activities for your enjoyment.

“Boarding is great preparation for life at university. You learn life skills you wouldn’t experience living at home. I enjoy the independence and especially the student-led social activities.”

Carla, Year 13



Independent Living

Students in the Upper Sixth spend two weeks living independently in the on-site cottage named Garden House. The modern and stylish interior provides a perfect surrounding for you to experience a taste of what life after school might be like and to enjoy much greater levels of freedom.

In Garden House, you will have the opportunity to manage your own budget and shop, cook, clean and do your own laundry. One evening during the week you will also put your cooking skills to the test by hosting and entertaining a few chosen members of staff.



Vocational Qualifications

In addition to traditional A Level subjects, you may also select from a choice of vocational courses. These courses are assessed through a variety of internally set assignments and external exams.

Vocational courses develop skills which transfer effectively to higher education or employment. Any of the vocational courses offered at Rendcomb College work well in conjunction with A Level subjects to provide a diverse Sixth Form programme. If you study a vocational qualification, you will embark on a programme which will equip you with the necessary practical and academic skills to progress on to a wide range of universities, apprenticeships or full time employment.

Vocational Qualifications	A Level Qualifications
Teaching approach is vocationally applied to the subject being studied, through links with local and national businesses and industry experts.	Teaching approach is focused on passing exams within the chosen subject.
A combination of internally assessed assignments and externally assessed exams over both years of the course.	All exams are taken at the end of the two year course. Some A Levels have a Non-Examined Assessment (coursework) too.
Pupils can re-sit external assessments if required.	Individual components cannot be retaken.

BTEC - Extended Certificate (EC)	UCAS points	A Level equivalent
Distinction*	56	A*
Distinction	48	A
Merit	32	C
Pass	16	E

In addition to 20 A Level subjects, we offer two BTEC subjects:

- Business Studies (EC)
- Sport (EC)



Business Studies students set up an eco business as part of an Enterprise project in collaboration with local businesses and the Royal Agricultural University.



Biology

AQA

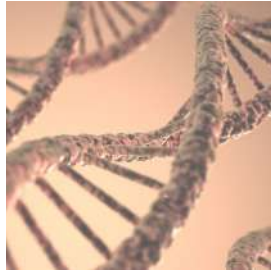
The Biology Department has two well equipped laboratories and

unparalleled ecology facilities; you will thrive in these stimulating and lively environments. Biology A Level is recognised as a facilitator subject by Russell Group universities. It pairs very well with a range of other subjects but especially: Chemistry, Geography, Maths, Physics, PE and Psychology.

You will perform numerous practicals which are recorded in lab books and you will complete 12 required practicals in which your skills are assessed. You will be expected to perform your own dissections. Besides covering the theory of the eight topics, class discussions, debates and extended reading occur throughout the course.

The department provides extensive information resources, including online videos to support the theory. Interactive quizzes allow the practice of exam style questions with quick feedback. Lessons are available online, and extended reading is provided for each topic where required.

A drop in clinic is provided for further support, and you can arrange for one-to-one meetings if necessary. The department offers a number of additional opportunities including links with universities, lectures and workshops with world renowned scientists. There is an opportunity to compete in the national Olympiad competition through the Royal Society of Biology. We have a bioethics debating society, a Natural History movie club and you can even take a leading role in dissection club.



Business Studies

BTEC

Edexcel

The world of Business is ever changing. All of us interact with businesses on a daily basis, and some of you will even end up running our own businesses at some point in the future. Whatever your current understanding of businesses, Business Studies will give you a significant understanding of the reasons businesses are set up, how they become and stay successful (or not) and give you a taste of the different areas of business which are vital to their survival.

The BTEC Business Level 3 Extended Certificate is equivalent to one A-Level and carries the same level of UCAS (university entry points).

Students learn to research, give presentations, produce papers and projects, work in teams, develop their communication skills and study a wide range of business topics. There is feedback at the end of each unit, allowing students to develop a clear sense of how they are progressing.

Students will take 4 units in total:

- Exploring business (project)
- Developing a marketing campaign (exam)
- Personal & Business Finance (exam)
- Work experience (project)



Chemistry

OCR



First and foremost, the study of the Chemical Sciences is a wonderfully exciting and stimulating pursuit.

Chemistry is an excellent choice of subject for people who want a career in health and clinical professions such as medicine, veterinary science, nursing, biochemistry, dentistry or forensic science. The subject will also equip you for a career in industry, for example in petrochemicals or pharmaceuticals.

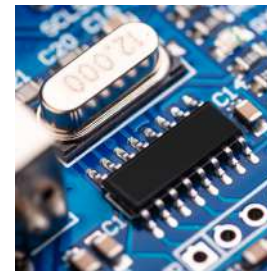
The Chemistry Department takes a holistic approach to the subject, maximising academic achievement, yet embracing the importance of wider exploration of the subject and hands-on experience.

Academic standards are maintained through excellent teaching, including the use of IT to support learning, rigorous marking and review of work, online support, extra sessions in school time for those needing help and outstanding practical support from the technician team.

A wider perspective is encouraged through our links with Higher Education institutions, professional bodies and industry. Students have the opportunity to hear from leading professionals representing the chemical sciences and take part in workshops and lectures. There is the opportunity for students to compete in national competitions such as Schools Analyst, Cambridge Chemistry Challenge and the prestigious Royal Society Of Chemistry Olympiad.

Computer Science

AQA



Computer Science is a dynamic and rapidly growing area that has become an integral part of the world that we live in today and the subject can open doors to diverse career paths. Many problems in the sciences, engineering, health care, business and other areas are solved using computer science and it is becoming increasingly important.

The A-Level builds upon the knowledge acquired at GCSE and practical programming forms a significant element of the course, both in the live programming exam and the project (NEA) where you develop a program to solve a problem or investigate a topic of your own choosing. Whilst learning to code and write algorithms you will hone your problem solving, decomposition and logical reasoning skills, all transferable skills that are highly valued by employers. You will also gain a wide overview of the theoretical aspects of Computer Science which will inform and support your understanding of how technology is used in industry and education.

We are supportive and well-equipped department that will encourage you to pursue extracurricular interests. These have ranged from programming and cyber security competitions to setting up 3D printers and associated servers. Our main classroom, soon to be equipped with high specification gaming PC's, is open and spacious with benches available for hardware projects. We also have an open office where you are encouraged to come and work during free lessons to gain additional support and guidance.



Design Technology

Eduqas



This course gives you the opportunity to innovate, problem solve and learn the knowledge needed to enter the commercial worlds of Product Design, Architecture, Engineering and others. The subject fuses together creativity and science and develops the ability to manage and prioritise multiple and often conflicting factors. Project management is a key aspect of the commercial world and of this course.

You will study modules in Design and Innovation, Materials and Components, Public Interaction – Marketing Research, Processes, Human Responsibility, Industrial and Commercial Practice, Product Analysis and Systems as well as explore designing and making principles.

All put together, this A Level gives an excellent grounding to the technological world of today, but more importantly, will prepare you for influencing the technological world of tomorrow.



Drama and Theatre Studies

Edexcel



Drama is a thriving and exciting part of life at Rendcomb College.

Senior productions are staged every Christmas alternating between plays and musicals. Recent productions have included *The Crucible* and *We Will Rock You*.

You will have frequent opportunities to visit the theatre and to work with well-known theatre practitioners such as Frantic Assembly during bespoke workshops. You will work on major productions as backstage and tech teams, Deputy Stage Managers and also as Assistant Directors on Lower School Productions.

Our Griffin Theatre provides the perfect environment for Drama and Theatre Studies A Level students to excel.

The course is designed for you if you enjoy reading, watching and analysing plays from both a performer and designer's perspective.

Practical performance is also imperative throughout the course for budding thespians. There is a strong emphasis on group work, communication and collaboration to produce effective pieces of theatre for an audience.

Drama and Theatre Studies is a valuable A Level for entry to a range of University Courses and as a starting point to access the main Drama Schools such as ArtsEd and Trinity Laban.



Economics

OCR



Have you ever wondered why nurses are so greatly valued by society and yet get paid so much less than actors or actresses? Do you ever read the news and wonder why inflation, economic growth or international trade should matter to us? Do you ever question why we pay tax on some goods and services and not others? And what does the Government do with that tax revenue? If so, then Economics may be the subject for you.

Economics at its core focuses on the way that society uses scarce resources and allocates them to produce goods and services. During that process of production a number of issues have to be solved. The role of government and the external influences on the economy form a vital part of the course.

You will learn how the performance of the economy can be measured including inflation, growth and employment and how the government can influence these things. Our approach to Economics is to apply economic theory to support analysis of current economic problems and issues within the UK and beyond, encouraging students to appreciate the interrelationships between microeconomics and macroeconomics.

Other topic areas include banking and finance, international trade, globalisation and how prices are determined.

English Literature

OCR



The study of English Literature at A Level involves:

- **psychological exploration of characters**
- **historical understanding of social and political contexts**
- **the development of critical and analytical thinking and expression**
- **the development of independence, interdependence and consideration of the human condition**
- **imaginative and creative opportunities.**

English is a popular and competitive university option. Despite it being a highly competitive degree-level subject, students in recent years have successfully gained places at top universities including Oxford.

An A Level in English Literature can take you on to a wealth of career paths as employers are increasingly looking for individuals with clear critical and analytical thinking skills.

Future opportunities may involve: digital copywriter, editor, Law, journalism, advertising, marketing, PR,

HR, social media content manager, etc. Additionally, MI5, the Police force and GCHQ actively recruit English

Literature students for their high level of analytical processing ability.

As well as expert teaching and fascinating lessons, the department offers plentiful enrichment opportunities such as conferences, theatre trips, visiting authors and literary house parties.



Fine Art OCR

The Art Department is committed to offering a rich and stimulating environment in which a versatile range of Fine Art practices are taught.

We aim to sustain and enrich your creative development by generating a dynamic and creative centre of learning.

This emphasises on visual tradition and contemporary innovation, support you to create both quality practical and written work and in doing so, you learn much about yourself.

Practical skills, critical understanding and aesthetic judgments are also developed in the belief that creativity is part of a full and well-rounded education, fuelling independent learning and research skills transferable for higher education.

The pursuit of artistic enjoyment, achievement and excellence are the cornerstones of the Art Department's philosophy. Central to our values, the Art Studios remain open well beyond the timetabled day, enabling you to further pursue your work and ideas outside of class time.

The Art Department is committed to offering a rich and stimulating environment in which a versatile range of Art practices flourish. You will enjoy the freedom of experimenting with materials ranging from oil paint to mixed media installations whilst developing your intellectual, imaginative and creative visual language.



French AQA

Studying French at A level will improve your ability to learn independently, increase your perseverance, spark your curiosity and strengthen your presentation skills. Those qualities are especially sought after by the best universities. On the 2-year course you will not only build on the speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills gained at GCSE; you will also be part of the 300 million French speakers in the world. Communicating ideas and opinions confidently in French on cultural and social trends ranging from family, national heritage, social media and new technologies, volunteering to the arts; is self-satisfying and impressive.

Why do French people always seem to go on strike? What is the legacy of the French Revolution? Can music influence French politics? Is French cinema a fair reflection of society? What does French literature tell us about France and its influence in the world? You will be guided, stretched whilst supported to explore those questions while developing your grasp of grammar, vocabulary and knowledge.

The study of French will enhance your career prospects as many degree courses can be done jointly and lead you to a range of careers in education, journalism, editing and publishing, international business, communication and translation through to culture and tourism, diplomacy, law, media, accountancy, management, or governmental positions.



Geography

AQA

The world we live in is changing. Geography allows you to see why and how. It can enhance communication skills, literacy and numeracy, IT literacy, spatial awareness, team working, problem solving and environmental awareness.

Geographers study the interaction between people and the places they inhabit. As such, it is a relevant and flexible subject which integrates well with a variety of other subject areas and can usefully be combined with the sciences (Maths, Computer Studies, Physics,

Chemistry and Biology) or Arts (English, History and Modern Languages) or Social Sciences (Business or Economics). It allows the Science specialist to develop important literacy skills and the Arts specialist to develop important numeric and graphical skills.

The skills Geographers use are also sought after by a wide range of employers. The close link between the subject and the world around us makes for a long and

varied list of related careers. For example, working with development or aid agencies, environmental work, using Geographical Information Systems, working for the census office and in tourism and recreation. In addition, for those who study further - for example at Masters Level - there are more specialist careers, such as in Oceanography, Hydrology and Volcanology to name just a few.



History

AQA

Our aim in the History Department is two-fold: to help you to achieve the best possible results you can at A Level, and beyond that to give you a deeper understanding of British and European society, politics and culture. On top of that, History will provide you with an unrivalled training in the analysis, organisation and communication of information - all of which are important skills in the world of work.

History is one of the most popular Arts subjects at university, and can lead to a wide range of job opportunities: the media, the legal profession, the civil service, and virtually every branch of commerce, banking and industry. The mental training which the subject provides is second to none, and is in demand in many walks of life.

We study AQA History, resulting in two exams and a piece of coursework. The examined units are a breadth

study of Germany 1871-1991 and a depth study of Britain 1951-2007. You are required to write essays for both papers and analyse either historical interpretations or primary sources (depending on the unit). Both of these units are taught over the two years.

We believe that this course provides a good mixture of historical skills and a stimulating diversity of

content, and we hope that those who choose it will find it an enjoyable and rewarding experience.



Mathematics and Further Mathematics

Edexcel



Studying Maths at A Level provides the opportunity to pursue careers at the forefront of technological advancement. Mathematics gives us the power to discover and identify essential practical information in our day-to-day lives. Mathematicians develop a range of skillsets including problem solving, analytical and research skills and logic; as well as the ability to solve mathematical, abstract and scientific problems.

A wide range of A Level and degree choices require Maths skills, and its versatility as a subject is highly regarded by universities. Subjects that have elements of number-based topics include Sciences, such as Chemistry and Physics, Economics, Accounting and Finance, Engineering, Geography, IT and Computing.

Why study Further Mathematics?

If you really enjoy Mathematics there is an opportunity to choose A Level Further Mathematics alongside A Level Mathematics. This additional course provides a challenge and chance to explore new and more sophisticated concepts and applications such as matrices and complex numbers that are important for many STEM degrees. It will distinguish you as an able mathematician in university applications and future employment.

You are strongly encouraged to participate in the UKMT Senior Maths Challenge Competition to broaden your mathematical experience and improve your problem solving skills. There is also the opportunity to be part of the UK Senior Maths Team Challenge.

Music Edexcel



Music A Level is both a creative and academically rigorous course that teaches core musical

skills whilst equipping you academically for entry to a wide range of Russell Group universities or Conservatoires.

You will have the opportunity to polish your performances to a professional level, compose your own music and have it performed in public, in addition to studying music in a broad range of popular and Classical styles.

Recent students have won scholarships to Birmingham and Leeds Conservatoires, as well as continuing to study Composition at University. Music A Level has a rigorous intellectual base and therefore equips you for non-musical careers; more music graduates win places on Medical Postgraduate courses than students of any other subject.

Performance Opportunities

There are many performance opportunities. Students have performed with professional orchestras, taken part in regular Coffee Concerts and also played in the orchestra pit or performed on stage in our musical theatre productions.



Photography

OCR

The Photography Department is committed to offering an environment, which fuels your thirst for exploring the photographic image. Our emphasis central to our philosophy, is that the photography studio remains open well beyond the timetabled day, enabling you to further pursue your editing skills and ideas outside of allotted class time.



Photography A Level encourages you to express your individual creativity, whilst honing your Technical ability, patience, time management and organisation, with a firm footing in understanding attention to detail, are all skills which will certainly be exercised.

The Photography course enables you to identify and learn techniques from a range of photographers and develop a photographic eye.

Communication through reasoning of visual language, feeds creativity and IT skills so you will also gain from a wealth of traditional and contemporary references which will in practice, enhance your personal research.

During the course, you will be introduced to digital photography tutorials. The course also provides you with the opportunity to work creatively within a wide range of disciplines and themes.

Physics

OCR

In the technological world in which we live, knowledge of Physics is essential, no matter what career you follow.

Physics is needed for all branches of Computer Science and Engineering, be it Civil, Mechanical, Automotive or Aeronautical. It is also widely accepted in the world of science and technology, business, banking and accountancy as well as for work in the media. Physics can also be found firmly rooted in medicine and veterinary science.

The A Level course builds on GCSE Physics knowledge and delves into new areas such as particle physics, medical imaging and quantum physics. Lessons are held in two well equipped labs, and classroom learning is enhanced by a considerable amount of practical work.

For those with a wider interest, you will be supported in taking part in Physics Olympiad competitions, and extension work provided by higher education institutions. Support is available to all in the form of extra sessions with teachers when needed.



Psychology

AQA

Psychology is an exciting subject that answers many questions all about humans. It is a Social Science subject that focuses on the 'scientific study of brain and behaviour', so you will have the opportunity to design practical investigations, such as observations and experiments.

You will look at examples of psychological studies and learn to critically analyse their ideas and their methods. Human behaviour is complicated and psychologists take a number of approaches including exploring the way the brain processes information, how our biology affects our behaviour and how some behaviours are learned through our social interactions.

Psychology is highly valued by employers for the skills developed in critical analysis, presentation, research, numeracy and written communication.

During the two year course, you will have the opportunity to visit Bristol Zoo to complete observational training and workshops. You will also attend a student revision conference with activities and exercises to help your understanding.



Spanish

AQA

Spanish is a thriving language that covers a multitude of exciting and diverse places across the globe, each with its own story to tell.

As the official language of over twenty countries and the second most spoken language on the planet in terms of native speakers, it is no surprise that more students in the UK than ever before are choosing to study Spanish at A Level. At a time when learning a language can make you stand out amongst even the best candidates, achieving proficiency in Spanish will provide you with a transferable and lucrative skill-set that is highly sought after by universities and employers alike.

The experience will be both stimulating and rewarding as you hone your language skills and become a confident communicator through the intensive and immersive small class teaching set up, whilst keeping your finger on the pulse of current affairs in Spain and Latin America. You will explore the socio-political issues that have been influential in shaping Hispanic history and culture: from Franco to Fidel, Ruiz Zafón to Rosalía, Dalí to Del Toro and Machu Picchu to Madrid, you will gain an insight into a vibrant and fascinating world.

Opportunities to further enrich and immerse yourself include cinema and gallery visits as well as trips and work experience abroad.



Sport BTEC

Pearson

This course aims to provide a broad basis of study across the sports sector as a whole.



You will have opportunities to develop your skills in a variety of sports. The course covers a broad range of topics which are relevant to sporting and physical activity; these include physiological, psychological and biomechanical aspects, as well as addressing contemporary issues such as the use of technology, ergogenic aids including performance enhancing drugs and the increasing commercialisation of sport.

This is a wide ranging qualification that opens many doors to further careers. It has a breadth and depth of content that dovetails well with a range of subjects notably Biology and Psychology. As a department we aim to deliver an extensive and stimulating programme of study that provides opportunities for you to experience a variety of sports activities and to develop an interest and expertise in the sporting industry.





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01285 832306

admissions@rendcombcollege.org.uk



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Year 10
The

Planit English
Year 10
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SELIOT
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Blue folder



Rendcomb College, Rendcomb, Cirencester, Gloucestershire GL7 7HA
01285 832 306 • admissions@rendcombcollege.org.uk • www.rendcombcollege.org.uk

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