



READ SCHOOL
DRAX

SIXTH FORM SUBJECTS

2026 - 2027

A-level Content and Structure

Read School Lower Sixth students generally study three or four subjects during the year. Following recent A-level reforms, you can take a separate AS-level qualification at the end of Year 12 before dropping the subject or going on to take the full A-level in Year 13; but unlike before, your AS results won't count towards your A-level grade.

For A-level students end of year internal assessments generally replace the external AS examinations at the end of Year 12. These end of year exams, together with internal assessment grades, half-termly reports, and the ongoing assessment of a student's attitude, commitment and classroom performance, are all factors that allow teachers to determine predicted grades for UCAS applications. Parents will be updated on their child's progress at two parents' evenings throughout the year.

Progression from Year 12 to Year 13 is dependent on a satisfactory performance at the internal examinations taken at the end of Year 12.

If you are taking 4 A Levels, the number of subjects taken through to A2 level in Year 13 can move to three or remain at 4 if you are coping with the workload. We assess everyone's performance in end of Year 12 exams to offer you advice on the most appropriate number of subjects to carry forward into Year 13.

The EPQ is offered to all Year 12 students. This is a highly respected qualification, which is equivalent to an AS Level and requires you to do your own independent research.

The following academic subjects are currently offered:

A-level Subjects	BTEC (Level 3)	Level 3 Courses
Art & Design Biology* Business Studies Chemistry* Chinese Design Technology English Literature* French* German* Geography* History* Latin* Mathematics* Further Maths* Music Photography (Art & Design) Physics* Psychology Spanish* Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)	Business Studies Sport	Food Science and Nutrition WJEC Level 3 Institute of Leadership & Management (ILM) Level 3

For all A-level subjects the Advanced Subsidiary (AS) course can be used as a final qualification that allows the student to broaden their study range. This can be taken at the end of Year 12 or Year 13.

**facilitating subjects - subjects most commonly required or preferred for entry to degree courses and choosing them will keep more options open for you at university if you are unsure of your career pathway.*

As we are a small school, we do have a certain amount of flexibility which allows us to provide the combination of subjects you desire to study.

Even so, we have to carefully band subjects in order to accommodate everyone's choices. It is therefore essential that we know your options as soon as possible in order to accurately and fairly dedicate timetables personalised to your needs. If we receive a later notification of what subject combination you want to study (e.g. after you receive August results) we may not be able to offer you your first choice of subjects, as it has knock-on effects upon other students' timetables.