

Where individuals matter



FFYNONE
HOUSE
SCHOOL



Sixth Form

An outstanding education in the heart of Swansea



WELCOME

Ffynone House sixth form sits at the pinnacle of our family school, in the heart of the coastal city of Swansea. We are a leading education provider, renowned for outstanding academic and personal achievement. Our friendly, family environment and inclusive culture create an enthusiasm for lifelong learning. Our happy, confident learners respect others and demonstrate creativity, wisdom, compassion and leadership.

Ffynone's values and ethos are unchanged since the school opened in 1973. We retain our reputation as a friendly, family school in which our students thrive in smaller class sizes than would be found anywhere else in the region. We teach and learn in an environment of mutual respect, promote high standards of integrity and achievement, and encourage all to participate in activities to the full.



COURSES

- | | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 08 Art & Design | 15 Drama and Theatre Studies | 22 Latin |
| 09 Biology | 16 Economics | 23 Mathematics |
| 10 Business Studies | 17 English Literature | 24 Further Maths |
| 11 Chemistry | 18 French | 25 Music |
| 12 Classical Civilisation | 19 Geography | 26 Physical Education |
| 13 Dance | 20 German | 27 Physics |
| 14 Digital Technology | 21 History | 28 Psychology |



We offer a unique learning environment where students are individually supported in meeting the challenges and demands of their A Level courses.

Ffynone students enjoy unparalleled access to supportive teaching staff in small classes with six lessons of contact time per subject, per week.

“The supportive and constructive working relationships between teachers and pupils as well as teachers’ expertise and passion for their subjects contribute significantly to pupils’ progress in developing their knowledge, understanding and skills.”

Estyn report 2019

In line with the rest of the school, Ffynone's A Level curriculum is both rigorous and academic, whilst also nurturing and challenging our more creative students.

There is no compulsory Welsh Baccalaureate at Ffynone, therefore our students are free to concentrate entirely on their A Level studies.

Students are encouraged to take the Extended Project Qualification (equivalent to an AS Level) if they wish to enhance their portfolio. This 4,000-word report on a topic of the student's choice demonstrates independent learning, self-discipline, promotes research skills and is very highly regarded by universities.





100%
pass rate at
A Level



We are particularly proud of our A Level results at Ffynone. Since 2012 we have had a 100% pass rate at A Level:

- 49% of students achieving A* or A grades**
- 73% gaining A* – B grades**
- 91% of our students gaining A* – C grades**

Most of our students go on to Higher Education, nearly all of these go to their first-choice university.

In recent years Sixth Form pupils have gone on to study at a wide range of top Russell Group universities including King’s College; UCL; Warwick; Bath; Birmingham; Nottingham; Exeter; Royal Holloway and Cardiff, reading subjects as diverse as Medicine; Dentistry; Veterinary Medicine; Pharmacy; Mathematics; Computer Science; Philosophy, Politics & Economics; Forensic Psychology; Architecture; History; English Literature; Accountancy; Economics; Art and Design; Modern Foreign Languages; Engineering; Music; Law; Geography and Business with Chinese.

Ffynone House School always supports students with individual talents to fulfil their potential; whether that is a pupil preparing for Oxbridge examinations or scholarship exams for top international universities or one taking up a contract as a professional footballer or preparing for and gaining scholarship at the Italia Conti Academy to become a professional dancer.

Personal 1-1 support is always on hand for UCAS applications, interview preparation and careers guidance throughout the sixth form years.

Ffynone's 'Future Aspirations' programme ensures all sixth form students are given access to:

- the Unifrog database to aid with next-steps decision-making
- expert mentoring in applications to Dentistry, Medicine and Veterinary Science
- guest speakers from a wide range of careers to provide insight into the real world of work.

All students are encouraged to experience the work environment related to their chosen field of study and are given support and advice in securing placements with local employers. These include commercial enterprises, public services and professional practices. Pupils usually undertake one compulsory internship at the end of Year 12 and are encouraged to seek further opportunities in the holiday periods.

“There is a strong sense of community that pervades Ffynone House. Pupils are proud of their school. They thrive in the calm and engaging atmosphere and benefit from the inclusive, family ethos and the high levels of care and support they receive. The confidence they acquire and the standards they achieve prepare them well for further educational opportunities and the experiences of future employment.”

Estyn report 2019



Personal development opportunities abound at Ffynone with buddying schemes, leadership activities, charity events and outdoor adventure days.

Sixth formers participate in and organise activities that will aid their own personal development and that of their fellow students. Fund-raising activities for MacMillan Cancer Support, Swansea's Mr. X Christmas appeal and Joseph's Smile are examples of charities we continue to support. Such activities create a sense of team spirit and give our students a wider awareness of the needs of others, both locally and internationally.

Form periods and weekly PSHE sessions allow students to further their understanding of citizenship, key life skills and healthy relationships. Our literacy and numeracy buddy scheme, plus regular supervisory duties around the school encourage our sixth formers to act as mentors and role-models to their younger peers.





There is a strong tradition of public speaking and the LAMDA (London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts) programme is very popular, with many of our older students gaining qualifications at the very highest levels. In Performing Arts, students contribute regularly to concerts and shows and our sixth formers always take the lead in demonstrating the dedication and self-discipline necessary to excel in these areas.

Our sixth formers have a timetabled Physical Education lesson once a week to highlight the importance of fitness in their overall well-being. Our multi-gym is always available to them and many are regular participants in the school running club and yoga classes. There are also opportunities to take part in off-campus adventurous activities such as the Silver Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

At Ffynone, students of all abilities are encouraged to realise their full potential at A Level. Our experts provide friendly and professional support to ensure we meet the needs of every student. There is a clear focus on high expectations whilst nurturing an attitude of independence in order to prepare them for the world after the 6th form.



ART & DESIGN

Art & Design at Ffynone is a broad-based course allowing students to follow any one of the following pathways: Art, Craft & Design; Fine Art; Graphic Communication; Textile Design; Three-Dimensional Design or Photography.

Students develop their understanding of the creative process, learn to communicate visually and to select appropriate materials and processes for their desired outcomes. There is an emphasis on independent work and students are encouraged to follow their own passions in the projects they devise. Art & Design can lead to career opportunities in a variety of areas from Textiles & Fashion, Art Management, Education, Art Therapy & Journalism.

What will I study?

Art & Design is a linear two-year course with no AS exam or submission. We follow the AQA specification. There is a choice of pathways; they all have the same assessment objectives and components. Component 1, the 'Portfolio Unit', is started at the beginning of Year 12 and carried through to the end of Autumn Term in Year 13. Component 2 is the 'Exam Unit', externally set by AQA, and is started in February of Year 13, culminating in 15 hours of unaided, supervised time producing an outcome based on the preparatory work.

"Art is my outlet. I am studying it alongside two very challenging A Level scientific subjects and am enjoying the opportunity not only to unleash my creativity, but also to understand the significant discipline necessary to excel in the subject. At Ffynone, I feel my passion for everything 'Art' is nurtured and I am given the space and time to develop as a unique artist."



Pathway descriptions:

- **Art, Craft & Design:** a broad-based course that allows you to draw from two areas of study from a wide-ranging list.
- **Fine Art:** develop your understanding of the creative process and learn to communicate visually. Areas of study include everything from painting, drawing to installation and sculpture.
- **Graphic Communication:** develop an effective personal visual language. Areas of study include interactive media, advertising and design for film and television.
- **Textile Design:** develop skills across a broad range of textiles techniques including fashion textiles, costume design and digital textiles.
- **Three-Dimensional Design:** learn how to select appropriate materials for three-dimensional projects and experiment with texture and surface design. Areas of study include environmental design, jewellery design and product design.
- **Photography:** take this opportunity to look, learn and communicate ideas in a way that is personal to you. Areas of study include portraiture, documentary photography, fashion photography and experimental imagery.

BIOLOGY

Biology is the study of life. It will enable you to develop a vast array of skills and acquire knowledge about the natural world and all the living things within it. Our theoretical studies are underpinned by regular, practical lab activities where every individual student is guaranteed to have hands-on experience. Gaining an A Level in this subject opens up a vast range of opportunities for both university degrees and career options. These include: Medicine and Healthcare, Science and Research, Agriculture, Sport and Fitness and Education.

What will I study?

We follow the WJEC A Level specification at Ffynone House School. All students take 2 AS exams at the end of Year 12 and then progress to 2 A Level written exams and one practical examination in Year 13.

AS Year 1

Unit 1

Basic Biochemistry and Cell Organisation (20%). This unit covers the topics of biological molecules, cells, enzymes, membranes, nucleic acids and cell division.

Unit 2

Biodiversity and Physiology of Body Systems (20%). This unit covers the biodiversity of organisms, adaptations that organisms have for gas exchange, transport and nutrition.

“Being an A Level Biology student has been a captivating experience. Mrs Munro’s lessons are highly engaging and the abundance of opportunities to apply theory in practical work is what I enjoy most. Studying some of the harder topics collaboratively has been a real highlight of my sixth form experience”

A Level Year 2

Unit 3

Energy, Homeostasis and the Environment for Life (20%). Photosynthesis, respiration, microbiology, homeostasis, the nervous system, ecosystems and human impact on the environment.

Unit 4

Variation, Inheritance and Options (20%). Reproduction in animals and plants, inheritance, variation and evolution and the application of reproduction and genetics.

Unit 5

Practical examination (10%). This unit will assess your practical skills developed over the duration of the course. It comprises two tasks which will be completed on set dates in the Spring term of the second year of study.



BUSINESS STUDIES

The WJEC AS/A Level Business specification introduces learners to the dynamic business environment and the importance of entrepreneurial activity in creating business opportunities and sustaining business growth. Learners will have the opportunity to develop a wide range of essential skills required for higher education and employment.

What will I study?

The WJEC Business Studies course requires all students to sit 2 AS written papers at the end of Year 12 and 2 further exams at the end of Year 13.

“Business was a new subject to me, having not studied it at GCSE. I’ve found the topics really varied and have particularly enjoyed the open discussions in lessons, which are possibly due to the small class sizes. The A2 topics are more challenging but I find them extremely interesting and relevant to today’s dynamic business environment. The subject has allowed me to think about where our products come from, how they are made, and the environmental impact of business activity.”



AS Year 1

Unit 1

- Enterprise
- Business plans
- Markets
- Market research
- Business structure
- Business location
- Business finance
- Business revenue and cost

Unit 2

- Marketing
- Finance
- People in Organisations (human resources)
- Operations Management

A Level Year 2

Unit 3

- Data analysis
- Market analysis
- Sales forecasting
- Analysing financial performance
- Analysing non-financial performance
- Aims and objectives
- Strategy and implementation
- Decision-making models
- Investment appraisal & special orders

Unit 4

- Change & Risk management
- PEST factors
- Ethical, legal and environmental factors
- International trade
- Globalisation & The European Union

The course enriches learners’ understanding of the world around them as citizens of Wales as well as the UK, Europe and the world.

CHEMISTRY

Chemistry is challenging yet also fascinating and rewarding. It involves the application of rules and patterns to solve problems. It requires hard work, but every solution is achievable. Chemistry is a practical-based subject. You will conduct regular practical work both individually and in pairs. Practical work is fun and is designed to help with understanding the course content as well as developing analytical skills. Chemistry is the gateway to degree courses and careers such as Medicine, Engineering, Research and Development in the pharmaceutical and cosmetic industries.

What will I study?

FHS follows the WJEC AS and A2 specifications for Chemistry. There are two exams at the end of Year 12; Unit 1 and Unit 2 and three theory exams at the end of Year 13; Unit 3, Unit 4 and Unit 5, in addition to a practical exam.

“Chemistry is an exciting science and an interesting amalgamation of many subjects. Lessons involve lots of practical work that uses a wide variety of chemicals and apparatus that must be carefully risk-assessed. I have enjoyed developing ideas from GCSE such as electron configurations and the structure of transition metal ions in water. Like fluorine, uranium and nitrogen, it’s F.U.N. and In S P Ir Es you to think differently.”

AS Year 1

Topics covered

- Chemical Calculations
- Structure and Bonding
- Trends in the Periodic Table
- Rates of reactions and Enthalpy changes
- Introduction to Organic Chemistry

A Level Year 2

Topics covered

- Carbonyl Chemistry
- Aromatic Chemistry
- Organic Synthesis and Analysis
- Redox Reactions and Electrochemistry
- Acids and Bases



CLASSICAL CIVILISATION

A Level Classical Civilisation is the study of art and literature from Ancient Greece and Rome. There are two modules studied at AS: 'The World of the Hero' involves reading Homer's story of Odysseus, whose epic journey home from the Trojan War took 10 years, thanks to some obstructive monsters, witches and gods! In 'Greek Theatre', we study three plays, alongside images of Greek vases and archeological sites. A third module is introduced in Year 13. The subject develops skills of analysis and communication, similar to English Literature and History. All texts are read in English, and there is no requirement to have studied Classical Civilisation at GCSE.

What will I study?

A Level OCR Classical Civilisation is a linear, two-year course, although there is the option of sitting AS exams at the end of Year 12. All three modules are assessed through written exams.



"I love the weird and wonderful stories of love, jealousy and revenge. Greek comedy is genuinely funny and the tragedies are terrifying! What strikes me most is how little people have changed in 2000 years."

Year 12

- World of the Hero
- Homer's 'Odyssey'
- Greek Theatre
- Sophocles' 'Oedipus the King'
- Euripides' 'Bacchae'
- Aristophanes' 'The Frogs'

Year 13

- World of the Hero
- Virgil's 'Aeneid'
- Love and Relationships
- Greek poetry (Sappho) and philosophical thought (Plato)
- Roman poetry (Ovid) and philosophical thought (Seneca)

DANCE

A Level Dance is a dynamic qualification which encourages students to develop their creative and intellectual capacity, alongside transferable skills such as team work, communication and problem solving. This course reflects both historical and current dance practices, making it more relevant, and inspires a lifelong passion and appreciation for dance. Many of our previous Dance students have gone on to study performance at a higher level.

What will I study?

The AQA A Level Dance course is split into three core units:

1. Performance
2. Choreography
3. Critical engagement



“A Level Dance has been inspiring, enabling me to freely express myself through a powerful medium. It has not only developed my technical skills but has really improved my self-confidence.”

Students will be assessed in all areas. A Level Dance requires students to develop, demonstrate and articulate practical and theoretical knowledge, understanding and experience of:

- technical and performance skills
- the process and art of choreography
- the interrelationship between the creation, presentation and viewing /appreciation of dance works
- the development of dance placed within an artistic and cultural context
- professional dance works and the significance of these works

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY

Digital Technology has recently been introduced as a brand-new subject at GCSE and A Level; the qualifications have been developed in consultation with sector leaders and industry experts to reflect technology's influence and importance in almost every aspect of 21st century life.

There is a broad range of degree programmes designed to prepare students for a career in technology. These include more traditional courses like Computer Science, Software Engineering, Cyber Security, Computing (with AI), Information Technology, Business Information Systems and other degree subjects like Civil Engineering and Computer Games Technology.

What will I study?

The WJEC specification is divided into a total of 4 units, 2 AS units and 2 A2 units.

AS Year 1

Unit 1 (20%)

Innovation in Digital Technology and is a written assessment (taken on-screen), comprising of a range of question types related to connected digital systems and smart devices, the development of Artificial Intelligence, digital technology development life cycles, user experience and human computer interaction in digital systems development and the functions, purposes and uses of social media by individuals and organisations.

Unit 2 (20%)

Creative Digital Practices is a non-exam assessment focussing on the end-to-end creation of a game. Students will investigate, plan, design, create, test and review a game of their choice.

A Level Year 2

Unit 3 (30%)

Connected Systems is a written assessment (taken on-screen), comprising of a range of question types related to collecting, storing, analysing and using data, cyber security, and digital technology networks.

Unit 4 (30%)

Digital Solutions is a non-exam assessment focussing on the creation of a transactional website linked to a server-based RDBMS. Students will plan, design, create, develop, review, test and refine a transactional website of their choice.



“Every lesson in Digital Tech feels incredibly relevant to the world today. I especially like how a lot of the subject is assessed through practical coursework projects and I’m enjoying these creative activities such as designing a game and creating a transactional website. The theory is more complex than I imagined but it’s also really interesting; I’m embracing the challenge!”

DRAMA AND THEATRE STUDIES

A Level Drama and Theatre Studies aims to develop your understanding of the theory and practice of Drama and consider the social, cultural, and political and historical contexts from which the plays derive. Through the study of a wide range of plays you will gain a detailed knowledge and understanding of ways in which playwrights use the dramatic form, structure, and language to communicate meaning to an audience.

Due to both the academic and practical nature of the course, Drama and Theatre Studies is a highly regarded subject by top universities and a wide range of employers. Aside from a career in the Theatre, Film and Television, the subject is advantageous for students wanting to study Law, Medicine, Teaching, Journalism, Media, Marketing, Business, and Public Relations.

What will I study?

Drama and Theatre Studies is a linear, two-year Edexcel course. It is split over three components, which will be explored both practically and theoretically throughout the course.

Component 1 – Devising

There are three main areas of focus.

- 1) Interpreting, creating and developing a devised piece from one key extract from a performance text and applying the methods of one practitioner.
- 2) A group performance/design realisation of the devised piece.
- 3) Analysing and evaluating the creative process and devised performance.



Component 2 – Text in Performance

There are two areas of focus.

- 1) A monologue or a duologue performance/design realisation from one key extract from one performance text.
- 2) A group performance/design realisation of one key extract from a different performance text.

Component 3 – Theatre Makers in Practice (Written Exam)

There are three main areas of focus.

- 1) Live Theatre Evaluation
- 2) Page to stage: realisation of a complete performance text – Accidental Death of An Anarchist (Dario Fo)
- 3) Interpreting One complete performance text in light of one practitioner for a contemporary audience – Lysistrata (Aristophanes)

“I chose to study Drama and Theatre Studies as it is a course that has given me the tools to be a confident communicator. In addition to this, it has also given me invaluable knowledge about the world, past and present and taught me about how and why people respond to different situations.”

ECONOMICS

Studying Economics at A Level develops an awareness of contemporary economic issues and how these impact national and global economies, the environment and society. Learners will develop a thoughtful and critical approach to decisions relating to use of resources and gain a thorough understanding of the difficulties in balancing competing government objectives. This is explored through the recent economic history of Wales and the UK, in addition to international policies and economic structures. Economics develops analytical and quantitative skills opening a wide range of opportunities for further study and in employment.

What will I study?

WJEC Economics is a two-year course with 2 AS exams in Year 12 and a further 2 A Level exams in Year 13.

“Economics is all about choices. In Ffynone, we study how governments, firms and individuals make choices based on scarce resources. It is a highly relevant area of study, given the current turbulent economic and political climate. I find it fascinating to learn about the different aspects of the economy. It has allowed me to engage in sophisticated debates with friends and family members about the global economic picture.”



AS Year 1
Unit 1
Introduction to Economic Principles

Unit 2
Economics in action at the micro level:

- Scarcity and choice
- Demand and supply in product markets
- Demand and supply in labour markets
- Resource allocation
- Market failure

Macroeconomics theory and objectives, polices and international trade

A Level Year 2
Unit 3
Exploring Economic Behaviour

Unit 4
Evaluating Economic Models and Policies:

- Costs, revenues and profits
- Market structures

Macroeconomics policy instruments and major economic issues that have taken place since 1990 to the present day – in the UK and globally.

ENGLISH LITERATURE

A Level English lessons at Ffynone are full of rich discourse and challenging debate. Our texts are wide-ranging in time-period and genre, and we expect our students to develop a strong sense of the contexts in which they were written and received. Literature students find that their skills of good analysis and in-depth reading help them enormously with other subjects. English is a highly valued qualification; our A Level students have gone on to study all of the following at university level: Law, Journalism, History, Medicine, Business Management and Psychology.

What will I study?

English Literature is a linear, two-year course with no AS exams. We follow the AQA specification. The set texts fall under two categories, 'The Comic Genre' and 'Social & Political Protest Literature,' and are assessed through two written exams at the end of Year 13. Two coursework pieces are completed in Year 12, each 1,500 words in length. These non-examined assessments allow students to apply a particular literary theory to a prose text and a poetry collection of their own choice.



"I enjoy the challenge of manipulating my knowledge of a text to fit a particular argument; I now appreciate the power of a carefully chosen word, both when I am reading a text and when I'm writing my own essays. Literature throws up so many issues that are relevant to life today and I love the lively, thought-provoking discussions that we have in lessons."

Year 12

- 'Twelfth Night' (William Shakespeare)
- 'She Stoops to Conquer' (Oliver Goldsmith)
- Poetry Coursework (own text choice)
- Prose Coursework (own text choice)

Year 13

- 'A Handmaid's Tale' (Margaret Atwood)
- 'Harvest' (Jim Crace)
- 'Songs of Innocence & Experience' (William Blake)

FRENCH

The Eduqas AS/A Level French course provides a deeper understanding of the French language and culture through a variety of engaging topics, whilst developing Listening, Reading, Writing, Translating and Grammar skills.

Studying French in the 6th form will develop valued transferable skills such as communication, attention to detail, multitasking, problem-solving, and critical thinking skills.

This course will suit anyone who likes manipulating words, and an interest in Literature and History will be an advantage, particularly in Year 13. With a strong demand for linguists in the UK today, an AS and/or A Level in French will stand you in very good stead for UCAS applications and in the job market.



Year 12

1) Social issues and trends

- Families and citizenship
- Youth trends and personal identity
- Education and employment opportunities

2) Political, intellectual, and artistic culture

- Regional culture and heritage in France, French-speaking countries & communities
- Media, art, film and music in the French-speaking world

“Studying French at Ffynone nurtured my passion for the language, thanks to the incredible support and guidance I received throughout my two years of studies. The small class sizes were incredibly helpful and a key part of my success in the subject, as it encouraged me to gain the confidence to speak aloud in French. It has also helped me to become more rounded and has diversified my prospects for the future”.

What will I study?

French is a linear, two-year course with a possibility of cashing-in the AS exam. We follow the Eduqas specification. In Year 12, we study two main areas of interest and a further two in Year 13, plus a French language film and a novel.

In each year, assessments consist of 3 components: 1. Speaking, 2. Listening, Reading & 2 Translations; and 3. Critical Writing: 1 essay on the film studied ‘Intouchables’ (Y12) and 2 essays (300 words each) on the same film and the novel ‘L’Étranger’ (Y13).

Year 13

3) Diversity and difference

- Migration and integration
- Cultural identity and marginalisation
- Cultural enrichment and celebrating difference
- Discrimination and diversity

4) France 1940-1950: The Occupation and post-war years

- June 1940–May 1945
- The cultural dimension in occupied France 1945-1950

GEOGRAPHY

A Level Geography lessons at Ffynone are full of discussion and challenge. Our students develop a strong sense of the complex and ever-changing nature of our planet, all embedded with a sense of place. Geography is what's happening outside our window, and students will feel empowered by seeing this in real-time.

As a part-science, part-humanities subject, Geography students find that the skills developed here help them enormously with other subjects such as Biology, Business Studies, Chemistry, Economics and History. Geography is highly regarded professionally as students are multi-skilled. Geography students embark on careers in Accountancy, Conservation, Law, Logistics, Planning and Energy or Environmental Impact Assessment and Consultancy.



“Geography has allowed me to explore both the physical and social aspects of our modern world. It has given me a new perspective and awareness of the issues that we currently face, and how as the world changes, what issues we will face in the future.”

Areas of study may include:

Year 12

- Regenerating Places (*Changing Places)
- Globalisation
- Coastal Landscapes & Change
- Tectonics

Year 13

- Superpowers
- Water Cycle & Water Insecurity
- Carbon Cycle & Energy Insecurity
- Migration Identity & Sovereignty (Global Governance)

What will I study?

Small class sizes means that we can follow a Geography specification that is best suited to our students. Usually, we follow the Edexcel linear, two-year course with no AS exams. The specification provides the opportunity for local fieldwork: from measuring pebbles across a storm beach, sampling vegetation and sand dune profiles along a transect to investigating how quality of life varies across our city. This does not mean that we do not venture further afield! In the past, international trips have included Iceland and Italy: both of which gave students the chance to see volcanic phenomena. In the summer of Year 12, students undertake personal data collection, as part of an Independent Investigation. Worth 20% of their final grade, this eases the pressure for exams and enables them to follow a topic that they are passionate about.

GERMAN

A Level German lessons at Ffynone are entirely taught in German and a strong focus is placed on building students' confidence and fluency in spoken German via relevant and topical themes.

Through social, intellectual, and cultural topics students will be able to develop their linguistic knowledge and cultural understanding of the communities where the language is spoken. From studying a film and a novel, students will increase their cultural awareness and critical thinking, whilst developing their linguistic skills.

German is a highly valued subject, and some students have gone on to study German or other languages, or Law, Journalism, History, Medicine or Business Management at university. With a strong demand for linguists in the UK today, an A Level in German will stand you in good stead for UCAS applications and in the job market.

What will I study?

Ffynone follows the WJEC A Level German specification. This is a two-year course with the option to cash-in AS exams at the end of Year 12. Language assessments cover the three central areas of speaking, listening and writing, with a written analysis of a German language film and novel.

Year 12

THEME 1: Being a young person in German-speaking society

- Family structures, traditional and modern values, friendships / relationships
- Youth trends, issues, and personal identity
- Educational and employment opportunities

THEME 2: Understanding the German-speaking world

- Regional culture and heritage in Germany, German-speaking countries & communities
- Literature, art, film, and music in the German-speaking world

Year 13

THEME 3: Diversity and difference

- Migration and integration
- Cultural identity and marginalisation
- Cultural enrichment and celebrating difference
- Discrimination and diversity

THEME 4: The making of modern Germany – 1989 onwards

- Initial and subsequent process of reunification
- Social cohesion in present day Germany
- Artistic and political movements
- Economic impact of the united Germany



“I really enjoyed A Level German and conversing in a different language each lesson, which has developed my language skills and confidence greatly. Learning about German culture, society and diversity really opened my eyes to these themes in German-speaking countries and the UK. I was encouraged to listen to German podcasts, YouTubers and music, to improve my linguistic skills further with topics I personally enjoy. Studying and analysing the coming-of-age film Scherbenpark was challenging and rewarding.”

HISTORY

A Level History lessons at Ffynone are full of lively discussion. Our lessons are engaging and challenging, focusing on a British history topic, a study of a country, a thematic study, and the opportunity to create your own topic-based essay. History is the gateway to a wide variety of degree courses and careers. It can be studied alongside any other A Level and can be used to enter the field of Law, Journalism and Politics.

What will I study?

A Level History is a linear, two-year course but still maintains the option of sitting AS exams at the end of Year 12. FHS follows the OCR specification. There are two exams at the end of Year 12 and 3 exams at the end of Year 13; The course also includes a non-exam component which is the topic-based essay.



“History at A Level puts so much of what I’ve learned at GCSE into context and has helped me learn about significant events in the past and their influence on the world today. My passion for the subject has helped me to become more confident in expressing my point of view in my other subjects, as well as when debating historical questions”.

Year 12

Unit 1: British period study and enquiry: England 1445 – 1509 Lancastrians, Yorkists and Henry VII

Enquiry: War of the Roses

Unit 2: Non-British period study: The USA in the nineteenth century 1803 – 1890

Year 13

Unit 3: Thematic study and historical interpretations: Tudor Foreign Policy 1485 – 1603 or Russia and its Rulers 1855 – 1964

Unit 4: Essay on a topic of choice: 3,000 – 4,000 words

LATIN

A Level Latin involves studying Latin language and literature, building on the analytical and linguistic skills developed at GCSE. At AS, the Language paper requires translation of an unseen passage (Latin to English) and then answering comprehension questions on a further passage. As with GCSE, a defined vocabulary list provides very clear parameters. For the literature, we study two Latin set-texts, prose and poetry from some of the most famous writers of the ancient world. In recent years, students have taken Latin alongside both Science and Arts subjects.

What will I study?

Latin is a linear, two-year course, following the OCR specification. There is the option of sitting AS exams at the end of Year 12. Both language and literature are assessed through written exams.

“Studying Latin obviously helps with other languages, but it also makes me think more analytically about English vocabulary and grammar, which I’d otherwise take for granted”.

“Latin language taught me more about the English language. Latin literature is full of scheming, murder and betrayal.’ What’s not to like?”

Language Paper

Passages on the language paper are previously unseen and require a confident knowledge of the defined vocabulary list as well as an in-depth understanding of the grammar.

Literature Paper

The literature set-texts currently include options to study the prose of either Cicero or Tacitus, and the poetry of either Virgil or Catullus.



MATHEMATICS



Mathematics at Ffynone consists of Pure, Mechanics and Statistics. Our lessons are engaging and challenging, focusing on the Mathematical understanding underpinning success in exams. Mathematics is the gateway to a wide variety of degree courses and careers. It can be studied alongside any other A Level and although it is fundamental to all science and engineering courses, it is also crucial in sectors as varied as Medicine, Business, Computing, and Manufacturing.

What will I study?

A Level Mathematics is a linear, two-year course but still maintains the option of sitting AS exams at the end of Year 12. FHS follows the Pearson Edexcel specification. There are two exams at the end of Year 12; Pure and Applied and 3 exams at the end of Year 13; 2 Pure and 1 Applied.

“Maths at A Level puts so much of what I’ve learned at GCSE into context. I now relish the opportunity to complete a tricky algebra problem and can’t wait to sink my teeth into the next new topic. I am particularly looking forward to expanding my knowledge of integration and differentiation as we study more calculus.”

Some of the Pure Content Covered:

- Proof
- Co-ordinate Geometry
- Exponentials and Logarithms
- Sequences and Series
- Trigonometry
- Calculus
- Vectors

Some of the Applied Content Covered:

Statistics:

- Statistical Sampling
- Probability
- Statistical Hypothesis Testing

Mechanics:

- Kinematics
- Forces and Newton’s Laws
- Moments

FURTHER MATHS

Further Mathematics is a qualification that broadens and deepens the topics covered in A Level Maths as well as delving into new topics and different areas of Mathematics. It is usually taught alongside Mathematics or it can be studied as an additional AS subject.

Further Mathematics is an excellent preparation for University, especially if you wish to study a Maths related subject such as Engineering, Actuarial Science, Computing, Chemistry, Physics, etc. Students with Further Mathematics qualifications are strongly welcomed and often receive preferential offers.



“Further Maths allows me to extend the skills I learn in Maths A Level and take my knowledge to the next level. The calculus involved is very tricky, but very satisfying! Decision Maths has opened my eyes to a whole area of the subject that I didn't know existed; I particularly like the Travelling Salesman Problem.”

What will I study?

A Level Further Mathematics is a linear, two-year course but still maintains the option of sitting AS exams at the end of Year 12. FHS follows the Pearson Edexcel specification. There are two exams at the end of Year 12; Core Pure 1 then Further Pure and Decision are sat together. At the end of Year 13 there are 4 exams; 2 Core Pure, 1 Further Pure and 1 Decision.

Some of the Core Pure Content Covered:

- Complex Numbers
- Series
- Methods in Calculus
- Matrices
- Proof by Induction
- Polar Co-ordinates
- Hyperbolic Functions

Some of the Further Pure Content Covered:

- Vectors
- Conic Sections
- Taylor Series
- Reducible Differential Equations

Some of the Decision Content Covered:

- Graphs and Networks
- Route Inspection
- The Simplex Algorithm
- Critical Path Analysis

MUSIC

Music A Level is a balance of coursework and examinations. Coursework is worth 60% and students are expected to supplement class lessons with individual instrument tuition, instrument practice, and independent study time on composition tasks.

The remaining 40% is assessed in an examination at the end of the year of study. The A Level music course provides an excellent basis for lifelong learning and for higher education courses in music, and many students who take A Level music continue their studies at university or at conservatoire. The three units of the course can lead to studies in performance, composition, musicology, ethnomusicology, sound engineering, conducting, popular music and jazz, and music education.

What will I study?

At Ffynone, we study Edexcel music A Level which has three units:

Unit 1

Pupils give a public performance of one or more pieces, performed as a recital. The performance can be playing or singing solo, in an ensemble, improvising or realising music.

Unit 2

Pupils must create two compositions, one to a brief set by Edexcel and one either free composition or also to a brief.

Unit 3

Pupils must gain knowledge and understanding of musical elements, contexts and language. This is gained through the context of six areas of study- vocal music, instrumental music, music for film, popular music and jazz, fusions, & new directions, each with three set works.



A selection of the exciting and eclectic set works at AS Level:

- J.S Bach – Cantata, Ein Feste Burg
- Vivaldi – Concerto in D minor op3, No 11
- Danny Elfman – Batman Returns
- Kate Bush – Hounds of Love
- Anoushka Shankar – Breathing Under Water
- Cage-Three Dances for two prepared pianos

“A Level music has nurtured my passion for playing alongside the challenge of understanding advanced theory. I enjoy both the creative and academic elements of the course and love that as an A Level music student at Ffynone, I am always given the opportunity to lead my younger peers in our regular concerts.”

PHYSICAL EDUCATION



A Level Physical Education at Ffynone encourages pupils to apply theoretical concepts to practical sporting experiences. Our lessons aim to develop understanding of physical performance and issues related to sport. Studying Physical Education develops a range of transferable skills that can lead to a wide variety of employment opportunities including sports management, sports coaching or officiating, the fitness industry, the armed forces, teaching, physiotherapy, sports promotion and the media.

What will I study?

Physical Education is a linear, two-year course with no AS exams. We follow the AQA specification. The theoretical element of the course is assessed through two written exams at the end of Year 13. Students are also assessed on their practical sporting performance in one sporting activity of their choice from the specified list and a written performance analysis of this sport.

The theoretical component of the course covers the following topics:

- Applied Anatomy and Physiology
- Skill Acquisition
- Sport and Society
- Exercise Physiology
- Biomechanics
- Technology in Sport



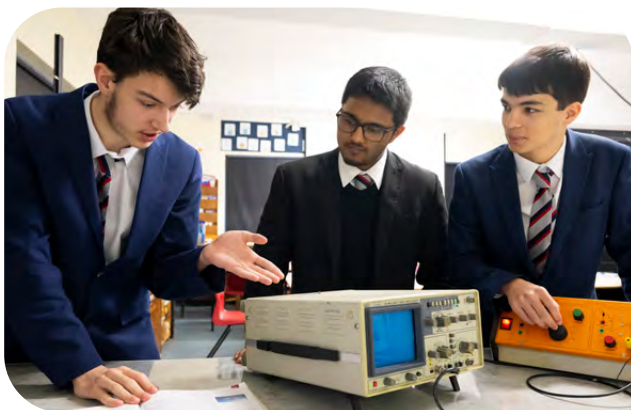
“I have enjoyed discovering how the body can adapt to the different physical demands of a sport through specific training. It is a bonus to be able to use this knowledge to help me improve my own sporting performance.”

PHYSICS

Physics at Ffynone consists of many conceptual areas, broadly split into Newtonian Mechanics and Modern Physics. Our lessons are rigorous but engaging; we focus on the problem-solving skills needed for a successful STEM career, but also make sure to fit in plenty of practical work. Studying Physics can open up many different pathways, with most students entering into a STEM field. Previous Ffynone Physics students have gone on to study Automotive Engineering, Theoretical Physics and even Politics, Philosophy and Economics (PPE).

What will I study?

A Level Physics is a linear, two-year course but still maintains the option of sitting AS exams at the end of Year 12. FHS follows the OCR specification. There are two exams at the end of Year 12; Breadth in Physics and Depth in Physics and 3 exams at the end of Year 13; Modelling Physics, Exploring Physics and Unified Physics. There is also the practical endorsement, which requires students to complete at least 12 experiments and record them in a lab book, meeting certain criteria along the way. This element results in a pass or fail but has no effect on the final A Level grade.



Some of the Newtonian Mechanics covered:

- Motion
- Forces
- Work, energy, power
- Materials
- Circular motion
- Space Physics
- Gravitational fields

“I love Physics because it lets me understand what’s really going on; we’ve learned so much about how objects interact and how complex ideas such as electricity and Quantum Mechanics work. I have always been fascinated by space and I relished in the chance to study it in more detail, the lifecycle of a star was my favourite!”

Some of the Modern Physics covered:

- Electricity
- Waves
- Quantum Mechanics
- Radioactivity
- Medical Physics
- Nuclear Physics
- Particle Physics

PSYCHOLOGY

Psychology is now the second most popular A Level course in the UK (ref. TES) and, with the ever-increasing awareness and importance of mental health, it is no surprise. At Ffynone, Psychology A Level covers a wide variety of topics where students can gain insight to the workings of the human brain and behaviour. Lessons are engaging and insightful with opportunity for in-depth discussion. Students will hone their analytical and organisational skills and learn about scientific research methods, including collecting and working with data. Our students have gone on to study a range of subjects at university level, including Psychology, Law, Medicine, and Business.

What will I study?

At FHS we follow the AQA specification. A Level Psychology is a linear, two-year course with no external exams at the end of Year 12 (unless chosen as an AS subject). There are three exams at the end of Year 13. Course content includes:

“Studying A Level psychology is interesting as it allows you to understand the inner-workings of humans and understand things that happen in everyday life, like the reasons humans conform and explanations for forgetting. Topics like these and many others help me to understand how the brain works and I've been able to apply this theory to the way I study my other A Level subjects.”

Year 12

- Approaches in Psychology
- Attachment
- Memory
- Social Influence
- Psychopathology
- Research Methods

Year 13

- Issues & Debates in Psychology
- Biopsychology
- Gender
- Schizophrenia
- Addiction/Forensics
- Research Methods





“Relationships between pupils across the school contribute extremely successfully to pupils’ self-belief, security and wellbeing. During their time at Ffynone pupils develop their personal, social and emotional skills assuredly.”

Estyn report 2019

Ffynone House is a school where each individual matters, and nowhere is that truer than in our sixth form. Here, our A Level students are guided by expert teachers in small, focused classes with close pastoral support. This is a safe and nurturing further education environment in an idyllic seaside setting where young people thrive.



FfynoneHouseSchool.co.uk



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