



Academic Provision 2022/2023

**Jebel Ali School
Sixth Form**

Our Curriculum

This handbook sets out to inform and explain the different programmes of study, delivery methods, and details specific courses and content that we offer at JAS Sixth Form. We follow the curriculum for England and Wales, offering an array of qualifications and a variety of pathways that can lead to universities around the world.

GCE Advanced Level (A-level)

We offer Advanced Levels (A-levels) across a wide range of subject areas. Students can select to study three or four different A-level subjects throughout Year 12 and 13. Similar to a GCSE qualification, A-levels are linear and students sit examinations at the end of the two year course. Depending upon the course and its content, examinations can be theoretical or practical.

The advantages of following a linear qualification is that students will receive more purposeful teaching time and will spend the majority of their two year study learning, consolidating and applying newfound knowledge and understanding. A linear qualification lends itself to ongoing revision which embeds knowledge and increases a student's ability to retain and retrieve content when required. Our 'blended learning' method (see page 2 for more information) provides students with unlimited access to revisit and revise content throughout the course. All of the aforementioned is designed to better prepare students not just for their A-level examinations, but also as they move into higher education or a career.

Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)

The EPQ is a stand-alone qualification which allows a student to select a topic and extend their expertise. Students must select a project topic that is related to one of their accompanying A-level qualifications and we would advise students to select a topic that is of personal interest, or one that will help in their desired career/industry. Students will receive essential support to complete this qualification; they are allocated a weekly session on their timetable (for direct teaching, instruction or independent study) and will also be assigned an EPQ tutor who will advise and guide them throughout.

GCSE English and Mathematics

JAS Sixth Form is committed to ensure that all learners are suitably prepared for higher education and employment, and so, as per statutory guidelines set out by the UK government, should a student not achieve at least a grade 4 in GCSE English Language or GCSE Mathematics, they must retake the examination/qualification at Sixth Form.

ETHOS Programmes

Qualifications are only part of what universities and employers are looking for in applicants, this is why we offer our comprehensive ETHOS programme. To find out more on our ETHOS programmes (Enrichment, Tutor, Health & Wellbeing, Options & Aspirations, and Skills (Study & Life Skills)) please read our JAS Sixth Form Prospectus.

Blended Learning

Our teaching and learning methods bridge the gap between Secondary School study and University study, we use a method better known as blended learning. Blended learning is an approach to education that combines online educational materials with traditional classroom methods.

There are many advantages to blended learning:

- **Future-proofing:** It balances lesson time with independent study time. This prepares students to be responsible and productive when granted increased independence at Sixth Form and University.
- **Better Engagement:** Course content is accessible and available as and when required. Students gain control and ownership over the time and place in which they learn.
- **Self-Paced Learning:** It allows all students to learn at a pace which suits them.
- **Deeper Learning:** When students complete tasks and assignments outside of the classroom, it allows teachers more time in lessons to explore deeper context and content.

How we achieve this:

Our timetable, infrastructure and supporting IT systems and skills, have all been carefully considered to ensure students engage and excel with blended learning.

- Students are allocated 1x double lesson and 3x single lesson per subject, per week.
- Students are also allocated independent study time.
- Teachers have flexibility of when and how content is delivered.
- Students have ownership of how independent study time is used.
- Teachers upload their lesson content on to Google Classroom.
- Students access content, tasks and support via Google Classroom, any time and anywhere.
- Students revisit content to complete tasks or revise for examinations.

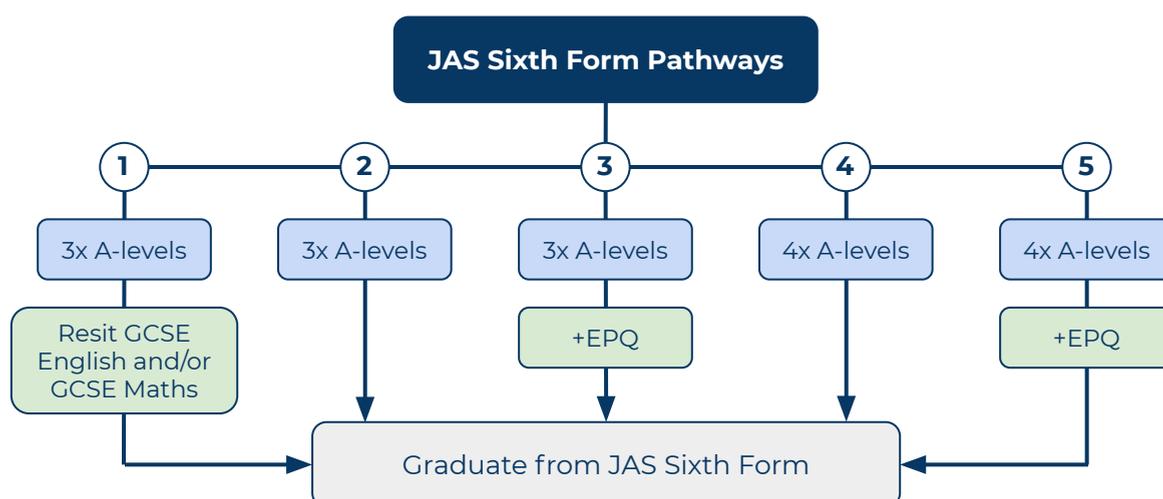


Pathways

Upon applying to JAS Sixth Form, students will be invited to attend a guidance interview with our Options and Aspirations Advisor. **Guidance interviews provide personalised advice** based on student's aspirations and they aim to inform students of appropriate courses and pathways available to them.

We know that there is an apparent correlation between a student's passion and their likelihood to succeed, therefore whether attending a guidance interview or independently perusing our academic provision, we advise students to consider, firstly, their **interest and enthusiasm** for the subject; secondly, the potential to **help access University courses**; and, thirdly, to think about their **career aspirations**.

Universities offer their places based on qualifications gained and experiences established. **Our choice from five varying pathways** allows each student to tailor their qualifications and experiences to their interests and aspirations. Our academic pathways suit students with University aspirations and students who would prefer to enter an apprenticeship or career after graduation.



Resit GCSE English and Mathematics

JAS Sixth Form is committed to ensure that all learners are suitably prepared for higher education and employment, and so, as per statutory guidelines set out by the UK government, should a student not achieve at least a grade 4 in GCSE English Language and/or GCSE Mathematics, they must retake the examination/qualification at Sixth Form. Students who are required to retake an examination will be supported with timetabled Maths and/or English lessons alongside their A-level lessons.

Our Timetable

The JAS Sixth Form timetable is pioneering and unique in its offering. Whilst our priority is to ensure students receive sufficient A-level study time, our timetable is carefully designed to encourage and enhance the health, wellbeing, interests, aspirations and personal progress of our young people.

Most days at JAS Sixth Form, students are not expected to start lessons until 08:40, this **delayed start** allows our students time to prepare for the day ahead or to drop siblings off at JAS Primary or Secondary. However, we do offer **independent study time** between 07:40 and 08:40. Research suggests that a delayed start not only improves young adult’s concentration and higher-order cognitive skills (judgement, reasoning and problem-solving capabilities) but they also benefit mental and physical health.

Upon joining JAS Sixth Form, students have an array of accessible pathways to choose from. All A-level subjects are allocated **five hours a week** and students are also expected to conduct **independent study**. Our timetable operates both single lessons and double lessons to encourage deeper learning and allow teachers flexibility in how they deliver content.

Students are also allocated **a two weekly tutor sessions and an enrichment afternoon**. During tutor sessions, students will complete our Skills Programme, and Options and Aspirations Programme. The enrichment afternoon, scheduled at the end of a school day, provides students with the opportunity to gain work experience using our business links around Dubai.

Example 4x A-level Timetable:

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday		Thursday
7:40-8:40	Optional Study	Tutor Time	EPQ	Tutor Time	7:40-8:40	Optional Study
8:40-10:25	Biology (Double)		Physical Education (Double)	Maths (Double)	8:40-10:20	Psychology (Double)
10:25-10:45	Break	Break	Break	Break	10:20-11:00	Break
10:45-11:40		Biology (Single)			11:00-11:50	Biology (Single)
11:45-12:40	Physical Education (Single)	Psychology (Single)	Maths (Single)	Physical Education (Single)	11:50-12:40	
12:40-13:25	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	12:40-13:55	Maths (Single)
13:25-14:20		Maths (Single)	Biology (Single)	Enrichment Afternoon		
14:25-15:20	Psychology (Single)	Physical Education (Single)	Psychology (Single)			

A-level Subjects

Upon application, our Options and Aspirations Advisor will invite you to attend a guidance interview and will guide you to select relevant and realistic subjects. Students are encouraged to pursue their interests and aspirations when selecting their A-level subjects, but our personalised advice will consider previous achievements and future aspirations.

The following table is a summary of the A-level subjects offered at JAS Sixth Form, please refer to the individual subject pages for more detailed information.

Please know as per government guidelines (detailed below) some subjects may be selected for you:

- Ministry of Education: Students with an Arab passport must continue to study Arabic. Muslim students must continue to study Islamic Education.
- UK Government: Students who do not achieve at least a grade 4 in GCSE Maths or GCSE English will have to retake the qualification/examination.

A-level Subjects	Page
Arabic	9
Art & Design	10
Biology	11
Business	12
Chemistry	13
Computer Science	14
Design & Technology	15
Drama & Theatre	16
Economics	17
English Literature	18
French	19
Geography	20
History	21
Mathematics	22
Further Mathematics	23
Media Studies	24
Music	25
Photography	26
Physical Education	27
Physics	28
Politics	29
Psychology	30
Spanish	31

****Please note that all courses are subject to a minimum number of students otherwise they will not be able to run.***

A-level Option Blocks

JAS Sixth Form's option blocks are devised from years of experience in supporting student's aspirations. Where possible we have tried to keep industry specific subjects in separate options blocks, this will help students select three or four relevant A-levels towards their aspirations.

Students most commonly select 3x A-levels, and whilst we support students studying 4x A-levels, we would expect these students to have excelled in their GCSE examinations.

Rules of Options Blocks:

- Students must only select a ONE A-level per option block (column).
- It is NOT necessary to select a subject from each option block.
- Students who hold an Arab passport must select Arabic from Option Block 5.
- Islamic students must study Islamic Education and will be automatically enrolled, you do NOT need to select this below.
- Students wishing to study the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) do NOT need to select it below, you will have the opportunity to enrol after joining JAS.

Option Block 1	Option Block 2	Option Block 3	Option Block 4	Option Block 5
Biology	Chemistry	Biology	Maths	Arabic
English Literature	Physical Education	Geography	Design & Technology	English Literature
Physics	Media Studies	Psychology	Art & Design	Maths
Business	Further Maths	Photography	French	Spanish
Drama & Theatre	Business		Music	History
	Computing		Politics	
			Economics	

****Please note that option blocks are liable to change and all courses are subject to a minimum number of students otherwise they will not be able to run.***

Advice:

View our University Requirements (page 8) to help you select relevant A-levels for your aspirations. You can also peruse different university websites and their "entry requirements" information.

University Requirements

If you aspire to go to University, you should be aware of the academic prerequisites (courses and grades) that universities look upon entry. The details below act as a guide and are generalised across multiple universities. Each University has different requirements that are adjusted annually, please check individual University websites for 'Admission Requirements' or refer to the '[Informed Choices](#)' website.

Career/Industry	Related Subjects
Accountancy	● Mathematics, Business and/or Economics
Architecture	● Art / Art Portfolio ● Mathematics, Design & Technology and Physics
Business/Management	● Mathematics
Computer Science	● Mathematics ● Computer Science
Drama/Performing Arts	● English Literature and Drama/Theatre Studies
Economics	● Mathematics
Engineering	● Mathematics and Physics ● Further Mathematics and Design & Technology
Foreign Languages	● Two separate languages
International Relations	● History and English
Journalism	● English ● Psychology or Foreign Language
Law	● History, Mathematics or English
Music	● Music / A minimum Grade 7 in an instrument
Pharmaceutical	● Chemistry and Biology
Physiotherapy	● Biology ● Second Science
Psychology	● A Science and/or Mathematics
Science (Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary)	● Chemistry and Biology ● Mathematics
Science (Natural)	● Mathematics and two Sciences
Sports Science	● Physical Education ● Biology, Chemistry and Psychology

● = Strongly Advised ● = Advised

A-level Examination Fees

Examination fees are payable upon confirmation of the examinations being taken by the student. Parents will be invoiced by the school alongside Year 13 Term 3 fees during their son/daughter's final year. Currently the fees range from **approximately** 350 to 950 dirhams per subject. Variation in the fee structure is dependent on the nature of the A -level course and is controlled by the examining body. Practical subjects that include external moderation are often more expensive. JAS commits to working with other Dubai schools to share international moderators and hence try to keep costs down.

An examination fee invoice can range from approximately 1,500 AED to approximately 3,000 AED depending on the A-level subjects that your son/daughter has elected to study.





A-Level Courses and Content

Arabic (Edexcel - 1AA0)

Summary:

Component 1:

During the examination, students are not permitted access to a dictionary or to any documentation related to their research.

- Section A: Translation into English
- Section B: Reading
- Section C: Writing

Component 2:

This paper includes a translation exercise and two essays on either two literary texts or one literary text and one film (students must not answer questions on two films).

- Section A: Translation into Arabic
- Section B: Written response to works
- Section C: Written response to works

Component 3:

This paper includes a listening comprehension and a question that assesses listening, reading and writing skills together.

- Section A: Listening comprehension
- Section B: Listening, reading and writing question

Entry Requirements

GCSE **Grade 6**
MYP **Grade 5**

Compulsory for
some students

All students are expected to have acquired at least 5x 4-9 GCSE grades (or equivalent) including English and Maths prior to joining

Course Structure	Assessment Type	Weighting
Component 1: Translation into English, reading comprehension and writing (research question) in Arabic	Written Examination: 150 minutes	40%
Component 2: Translation into Arabic and written response to works	Written Examination: 160 minutes	30%
Component 3: Listening, Reading and Writing in Arabic	Written Examination: 135 minutes	30%

Useful Links for Additional Information:

- [Arabic Specification - Edexcel](#)

Art & Design (Edexcel - Fine Art 9FAO)

Summary:

A-level Art and Design is a broad and flexible course. You will develop skills to enable you to develop, review and refine ideas, analyse contextual and other sources to inform your investigations, explore and select appropriate resources, media, materials, techniques and processes, record your ideas, observation and insights and present personal and meaningful responses.

A-level Art and design is the right subject for you if you enjoy:

- Thinking independently and developing, refining and communicating your ideas.
- Analysing your own work and the work of others to inform your ideas.
- Experimenting/taking risks in order to solve problems.
- Producing personal creative outcomes.

You will explore practical and critical/contextual work through a range of processes and media.

- Through the disciplines of painting and drawing, printmaking, sculpture, lens-based image making.

Entry Requirements
GCSE Grade 6
MYP Grade 5
Previous study is **desirable**

All students are expected to have acquired at least 5x 4-9 GCSE grades (or equivalent) including English and Maths prior to joining

Course Structure	Assessment Type	Weighting
Component 1: Personal Investigation	Internal Assessment: Students will produce a portfolio of practical and written work based on personal starting points.	60%
Component 2: Externally Set Assignment	Internal Assessment: Students will produce preparatory studies and personal outcome(s) based on a theme set by Edexcel.	40%

Useful Links for Additional Information:

- [Art & Design Specification - Edexcel](#)
- [Art & Design Pathways - UCAS](#)

Biology (Edexcel - 9BI0)

Summary:

The Biology A Level course will engage and inspire the scientists of the future. Four unifying principles form the foundation of modern biology: cell theory, evolutionary theory, the gene theory and the principle of homeostasis. These four principles are important to each and every field of Biology. The topics that will be studied have been selected to encourage students to develop as scientists, and give them the skills to succeed in their chosen pathway.

Topics common to both papers

Biological Molecules; Cells, viruses and reproduction of living things; Classification and Biodiversity; Exchange and Transport.

Paper 1 topics:

Energy for Biological Processes; Microbiology and Pathogens and Modern Genetics.

Paper 2 topics:

Origins of genetic variation; Control Systems; Ecosystems

Assessment:

There are three externally assessed examinations at A-level. Students are also required to complete twelve core practicals and these will be internally assessed. Paper 3 examines students on all topics and practical application skills, whereas Papers 1 and 2 focus on specific topics.

Course Structure	Assessment Type	Weighting
Component 1: Paper 1	Written Examination: 105 minutes	30%
Component 2: Paper 2	Written Examination: 105 minutes	30%
Component 3: Paper 3	Written Examination: 150 minutes	40%

Useful Links for Additional Information:

- [Biology Specification - Edexcel](#)
- [Biology Pathways - UCAS](#)

Entry Requirements

GCSE **Grade 6**
MYP **Grade 5**

Previous study is **essential**

All students are expected to have acquired at least 5x 4-9 GCSE grades (or equivalent) including English and Maths prior to joining

Business (Edexcel - 9BS0)

Entry Requirements

**GCSE Grade 6
MYP Grade 5**

Previous study is **desirable**

All students are expected to have acquired at least 5x 4-9 GCSE grades (or equivalent) including English and Maths prior to joining

Summary:

- Generate enterprising and creative approaches to business opportunities, problems and issues.
- Develop a critical understanding of organisations and their ability to meet society's needs and wants.
- Acquire a range of relevant business and generic skills, including decision making, problem solving, the challenging of assumptions and critical analysis.
- Understand that business behaviour can be studied from a range of perspectives
- Be aware of the ethical dilemmas and responsibilities faced by organisations

Theme 1: Marketing and people

Students will develop an understanding of:

- meeting customer needs
- the market
- marketing mix and strategy
- managing people
- entrepreneurs and leaders.

Theme 2: Managing business activities

Students will develop an understanding of:

- raising finance
- financial planning
- managing finance
- resource management
- external influences.

Theme 3: Business decisions and strategy

Students will develop an understanding of:

- business objectives and strategy
- business growth
- decision-making techniques
- influences on business decisions
- assessing competitiveness
- managing change.

Theme 4: Global business

Students will develop an understanding of:

- globalisation
- global markets and business expansion
- global marketing
- global industries and companies (multinational corporations).

Course Structure	Assessment Type	Weighting
Component 1: Paper 1: Marketing, people and global businesses	Written Examination: 120 minutes	35%
Component 2: Paper 2: Business activities, decisions and strategy	Written Examination: 120 minutes	35%
Component 3: Paper 3: Investigating business in a competitive environment	Written Examination: 120 minutes	30%

Useful Links for Additional Information:

- [Business Specification - Edexcel](#)
- [Business Pathways - UCAS](#)

Chemistry (Edexcel - 9CH0)

Summary:

Chemistry is all around you, so studying Chemistry at A Level can teach you about everything. You will study the structure and function of matter and the laws that govern the behaviour of matter when it interacts on a scale from macroscopic to the molecular level. Chemistry teaches experimental and analytical skills and is a great platform to many careers within the sciences, or further afield such as law, business, environment and climate studies, politics, medicine and pharmacology or forensics.

Topics common to both papers

Bonding and structure; Redox I; Formulae, Equations and Amounts of Substance.

Paper 1 topics:

Atomic Structure and the Periodic Table; Inorganic Chemistry and the Periodic Table; Energetics I and II; Equilibrium I and II; Acid-base equilibria; Redox II; Transition metals.

Paper 2 topics:

Organic Chemistry I, II and III; Modern Analytic Techniques I and II; Kinetics I & II.

Assessment:

There are three externally assessed examinations. Students are also required to complete twelve core practicals and these will be internally assessed. Paper 3 examines students on all topics and practical application skills, whereas Papers 1 and 2 focus on specific topics.

Course Structure	Assessment Type	Weighting
Component 1: Paper 1	Written Examination: 105 minutes	30%
Component 2: Paper 2	Written Examination: 105 minutes	30%
Component 3: Paper 3	Written Examination: 150 minutes	40%

Useful Links for Additional Information:

- [Chemistry Specification - Edexcel](#)
- [Chemistry Pathways - UCAS](#)

Entry Requirements

GCSE **Grade 6**
MYP **Grade 5**

Previous study
is **essential**

All students are expected to have acquired at least 5x 4-9 GCSE grades (or equivalent) including English and Maths prior to joining

Computer Science (Edexcel - 4CP0)

Entry Requirements

GCSE Grade 6
MYP Grade 5

Previous study is **desirable**

All students are expected to have acquired at least 5x 4-9 GCSE grades (or equivalent) including English and Maths prior to joining

Summary:

Computer Science is assessed through two examinations, one written and one practical programming scenario. There is also a non-assessment practical project which assesses a student's ability to use the knowledge and skills gained through the course to solve or investigate a practical problem.

Component 1: Programming

This paper will primarily assess the practical application of computational thinking, whereby learners will create, use and adapt existing algorithms to solve problems in a particular situation. Students will be required to design, program and evaluate computer systems that solve problems, making reasoned judgements about these and presenting conclusions.

Component 2: Theory of Computer Science

This paper will primarily assess the knowledge and understanding of the principles and concepts of computer science, including abstraction, logic, algorithms and data representation and your ability to analyse problems in computational terms.

Component 3: Computing Practical Project

The non-exam assessment tests a student's ability to use the knowledge and skills gained through the course. The practical project allows students to develop their programming skills in the context of solving a realistic problem or carrying out an investigation.

Course Structure	Assessment Type	Weighting
Component 1: Programming	On-screen Examination: 150 minutes	40%
Component 2: Theory of Computer Science	Written Examination: 150 minutes	40%
Component 3: Computing Practical Project	Non-examination Assessment	20%

Useful Links for Additional Information:

- [Computer Science Specification - AQA](#)
- [Computer Science Pathways - UCAS](#)

Design & Technology (Edexcel - 9DT0)

Summary:

Product Design at A-level challenges students to apply their Design & Technology knowledge to solve real problems for real clients. Students will have more opportunity to choose their own themes and products to create, learning more advanced workshop tools and processes as well as understanding new materials and industry standards along the way.

Year 12 Components:

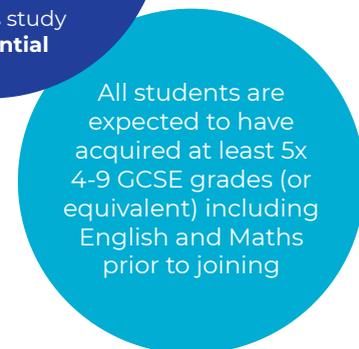
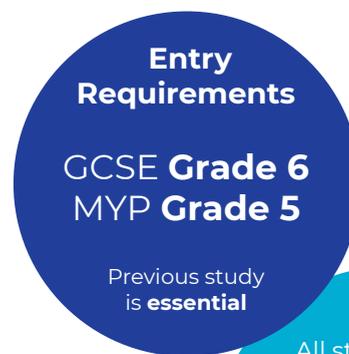
In the first year, students will cover topics including::

- Material properties and performance
- Design processes and techniques
- Digital technologies including professional 3D CAD
- Factors influencing the development of products
- Effects of technological developments
- Potential hazards and risk assessment

Students will complete a series of practical projects to have first hand experience in these topics, with a written, internal exam and final project completing the year's assessments.

Year 13 Components:

By the second year, students will have built enough theory knowledge in Product Design to begin their final project, which is worth 50% of their final grade at A Level. This task will run alongside specific theory classes to prepare for the final 2-hour written exam (also worth 50%).



Course Structure	Assessment Type	Weighting
Component 1: Core and Material Categories	Written Examination: 120 minutes	50%
Component 2: A Major Project	Non-Examined Assessment: Final, Individual Project	50%

Useful Links for Additional Information:

- [Design Technology Specification - Edexcel](#)
- [Design Technology Pathways - UCAS](#)

Drama & Theatre (AQA - 7262)

Summary:

Component 1: Drama and Theatre

Students are assessed on their knowledge and understanding of how drama and theatre is developed and performed. Students will study and analyse two set plays and evaluate the live theatre work of others.

Component 2: Creating Original Drama

Students are practically assessed on their ability to create and develop ideas from a given stimulus, to communicate meaning for performance. The devised piece must be informed by one of the work and methodologies of the prescribed theatre practitioners.

Component 3: Making Theatre

Students are practically assessed on their ability to apply theatrical skills to realise artistic intentions in live performance. For this component students must practically explore (workshop) and interpret three key extracts each from a different play and complete two assessment tasks.

Students may specialise in performing, designing (lighting, sound, set, costume, or puppets), and/or directing.

Entry Requirements

GCSE **Grade 6**
MYP **Grade 5**

Previous study is **desirable**

All students are expected to have acquired at least 5x 4-9 GCSE grades (or equivalent) including English and Maths prior to joining

Course Structure	Assessment Type	Weighting
Component 1: Drama and Theatre	Written Examination: 180 minutes	40%
Component 2: Creating Original Drama	Internal Assessment: Devising log and devised performance.	30%
Component 3: Making Theatre	Internal Assessment: Performance of Extract 3 and reflective Report	30%

Useful Links for Additional Information:

- [Drama and Theatre Specification - AQA](#)
- [Drama and Theatre Pathways - UCAS](#)

Economics (Edexcel - 9EB0)

Entry Requirements

GCSE Grade 6
MYP Grade 5

Previous study is **desirable**

All students are expected to have acquired at least 5x 4-9 GCSE grades (or equivalent) including English and Maths prior to joining

Summary:

The aims and objectives of the A-Level in Economics B are to enable students to develop an interest in, and enthusiasm for, the subject and to appreciate the contribution of economics to the understanding of the wider economic and social environment.

Theme 1: Markets, consumer and firms

Students will develop an understanding of:

- scarcity, choice and potential conflicts
- enterprise, business and the economy
- introducing the market
- the role of credit in the economy
- market failure and government intervention
- revenue, costs, profits and cash.

Theme 2: The wider economic environment

Students will develop an understanding of:

- business growth and competitive advantage
- firms, consumers and elasticities of demand
- productive efficiency
- life in a global economy
- the economic cycle
- introduction to macroeconomic policy.

Theme 3: The global economy

Students will develop an understanding of:

- globalisation
- economic factors in business expansion
- impact of globalisation on global companies
- impact of globalisation on local and national economies
- global labour markets
- inequality and redistribution.

Theme 4: Making markets work

Students will develop an understanding of:

- competition and market power
- market power and market failure
- market failure across the economy
- macroeconomic policies and impact on firms and individuals
- risk and the financial sector.

Course Structure	Assessment Type	Weighting
Component 1: Markets and how they work	Written Examination: 120 minutes	35%
Component 2: Competing in the global economy	Written Examination: 120 minutes	35%
Component 3: The economic environment and business	Written Examination: 120 minutes	30%

Useful Links for Additional Information:

- [Economics Specification - Edexcel](#)
- [Economics Pathways - Prospects](#)

English Literature (Edexcel - 9ET0)

Entry Requirements

GCSE Grade 6
MYP Grade 5

Previous study is **essential**

All students are expected to have acquired at least 5x 4-9 GCSE grades (or equivalent) including English and Maths prior to joining

Summary:

The English Literature A-Level allows students to develop their critical and analytical skills through an exploration of a range of genres, styles and forms of literature from different contexts.

Component 1: Drama

Students will study the genre, Tragedy, through Shakespeare's *Othello* and Tennessee Williams' *A Streetcar Named Desire*. They will explore literary and dramatic devices and how these shape meaning and genre.

Component 2: Prose

Students will study the thematic links between Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* and Margaret Atwood's *The Handmaid's Tale*, as well as the contexts in which they were written and received.

Component 3: Poetry

For the poetry unit, students will consider the concerns and choices of a modern day poet, through a study of contemporary poetry. They will develop their knowledge of poetic form, content, meaning, style and comparison through an exploration of a named poet from a literary period, such as the Romantic Period.

Component 4: Non-examination unit

Students will produce a comparative essay, exploring connections, interpretations and contexts. Students will compare F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby* with Khaled Hosseini's *A Thousand Splendid Sons*. (Texts could be subject to change dependent on teacher selection).

Course Structure	Assessment Type	Weighting
Component 1: Drama	Written Examination: 135 minutes	30%
Component 2: Prose	Written Examination: 75 minutes	20%
Component 3: Poetry	Written Examination: 135 minutes	30%
Component 4: Non-examination	Coursework essay 2500-3000 words	20%

Useful Links for Additional Information:

- [English Literature Specification - Edexcel](#)
- [English Pathways - UCAS](#)

French (AQA - 7652)

Summary:

The AQA French A-Level has been designed with stimulating content to enable students to develop their linguistic skills alongside their understanding of the culture and society of the countries where French is spoken.

Year 12

Throughout Year 12, students will study:

- Aspects of French speaking society (The changing nature of family, the 'cyber-society' and the place of voluntary work).
- Artistic culture (A culture proud of its heritage, Contemporary Francophone music and cinema (the 7th art).
- One French film.

Year 13

Throughout Year 13, students will study:

- Aspects of French speaking society (Positive features of a diverse society, Life for the marginalised and How criminals are treated).
- Aspects of political life in the French speaking world (Teenager's rights to vote and political commitment, demonstrations and strikes and politics and immigration).
- One French piece of literature .

Entry Requirements

GCSE **Grade 6**
MYP **Grade 5**

Previous study is **essential**

All students are expected to have acquired at least 5x 4-9 GCSE grades (or equivalent) including English and Maths prior to joining

Course Structure	Assessment Type	Weighting
Paper 1: Listening, Reading & Writing	Written Examination: 150 minutes	50%
Paper 2: Writing	Written Examination: 120 minutes	20%
Paper 3: Speaking	Speaking Examination: 21 - 23 minutes	30%

Useful Links for Additional Information:

- [French Specification - AQA](#)
- [French Pathways - UCAS](#)

Geography (Edexcel - YGE01)

Entry Requirements

GCSE Grade 6
MYP Grade 5

Previous study is **desirable**

All students are expected to have acquired at least 5x 4-9 GCSE grades (or equivalent) including English and Maths prior to joining

Summary:

Component 1: Global Challenges

- Topic 1: World at Risk
- Topic 2: Going Global

Component 2: Geographical Investigations

- Topic 1: Crowded Coasts
- Topic 2: Urban Problems, Planning and Regeneration

Component 3: Contested Planet

Compulsory topics:

- Topic A1: Atmosphere and Weather Systems
- Topic A2: Biodiversity Under Threat

Optional topics:

- Topic B1: Energy Security **or** Topic B2: Water Conflicts
- Topic C1: Superpower Geographies **or** Topic C2: Bridging the Development Gap

Component 4: Researching Geography

- Option 1: Tectonic Activity and Hazards **or** option 2: Feeding the World's People **or** option 3: Cultural Diversity: People and Landscapes **or** option 4: Human Health and Disease

Course Structure	Assessment Type	Weighting
Component 1: Global Challenges	Written Examination: 105 minutes	30%
Component 2: Geographical Investigations	Written Examination: 90 minutes	20%
Component 3 Contested Planet	Written Examination: 120 minutes	30%
Component 4 Researching Geography	Written Examination 90 minutes	20%

Useful Links for Additional Information:

- [Geography Specification - Edexcel](#)
- [Geography Pathways - UCAS](#)

History (Edexcel - 4HI1)

Entry Requirements

GCSE Grade 6
MYP Grade 5

Previous study is **desirable**

All students are expected to have acquired at least 5x 4-9 GCSE grades (or equivalent) including English and Maths prior to joining

Summary:

Component 1: The American Dream: the USA, c1917–96

The focus of study is on developments and changes over a broad timescale and so the content is presented as themes spanning a significant duration: 1917-80.

In depth study of historical interpretations on a broad question, which is contextualised by, and runs on from, the themes: what impact the Reagan presidency had on the USA in the years 1981–96.

Component 2:

- South Africa, 1948– 94: from apartheid state to 'rainbow nation'

Looking at the creation and consolidation of the apartheid regime by the National Party and the response and methods used by their political opponents in the struggle to overthrow apartheid, as well as social, economic and cultural changes that accompanied this process.

- India c1914–48: The road to independence

Understanding of the changing relationship between Britain and India from the outbreak of the First World War to the achievement of independence for the Indian subcontinent.

Component 3: Britain: losing and gaining an empire, 1763–1914

Looking at the development of the British empire and the part played in this by the Royal Navy and merchant marine. Looking at social, economic and political issues

Course Structure	Assessment Type	Weighting
Component 1: Breadth study with interpretations	Written Examination: 135 minutes	30%
Component 2: Depth study	Written Examination: 90 minutes	20%
Component 3: Themes in breadth with aspects in depth	Written Examination: 135 minutes	30%
Component 4: Coursework	Students complete an independently researched enquiry on historical interpretations, e.g. the origins of WW1 or origins of the Cold War.	20%

Useful Links for Additional Information:

- [History Specification - Edexcel](#)
- [History Pathways - UCAS](#)

Mathematics (Edexcel - 9MA0)

Entry Requirements

GCSE **Grade 7**
MYP **Grade 6**

Previous study is **essential**

All students are expected to have acquired at least 5x 4-9 GCSE grades (or equivalent) including English and Maths prior to joining

Summary:

Pure Mathematics 1 and 2:

- Proof, Algebra and Functions.
- Coordinate Geometry in the (x, y) plane
- Sequences and Series
- Trigonometry
- Exponentials and Logarithms
- Differentiation and Integration
- Numerical Methods and Vectors

Statistics:

- Statistical Sampling.
- Data Presentation and Interpretation
- Probability.
- Statistical Distributions.
- Statistical Hypothesis Testing

Mechanics:

- Quantities and Units in Mechanics.
- Kinematics.
- Forces and Newton's Law.
- Moments

Course Structure	Assessment Type	Weighting
Paper 1: (Pure Mathematics 1)	Written Examination: 120 minutes	33.33%
Paper 2: (Pure Mathematics 2)	Written Examination: 120 minutes	33.33%
Paper 3: (Statistics and Mechanics)	Written Examination: 120 minutes	33.33%

Useful Links for Additional Information:

- [Mathematics Specification - Edexcel](#)
- [Mathematics Pathways - UCAS](#)

Further Mathematics (Edexcel - 9FM0)

Entry Requirements

GCSE Grade 9
MYP Grade 8

Previous study is **essential**

All students are expected to have acquired at least 5x 4-9 GCSE grades (or equivalent) including English and Maths prior to joining

Summary:

Core Pure Mathematics 1 and 2:

- Proof and Complex Numbers
- Matrices
- Further Algebra and Functions
- Further Vectors
- Polar Coordinates
- Hyperbolic Functions and Differential Equations

Further Mathematics Option 1 and Option 2:

Students choose 2 of the following options:

- Further Pure Mathematics 1
- Further Mechanics 1
- Decision Mathematics 1
- Further Statistics 1
- Further Mechanics 2
- Other module options available

Course Structure	Assessment Type	Weighting
Paper 1: (Core Pure Mathematics 1)	Written Examination: 90 minutes	25%
Paper 2: (Core Pure Mathematics 2)	Written Examination: 90 minutes	25%
Paper 3: (Further Mathematics Option 1)	Written Examination: 90 minutes	25%
Paper 4: (Further Mathematics Option 2)	Written Examination: 90 minutes	25%

Useful Links for Additional Information:

- [Further Mathematics Specification - Edexcel](#)
- [Further Mathematics Pathways - UCAS](#)

Media Studies (AQA - 7572)

Summary:

The course is designed to: Introduce students to different media platforms, evaluation and analysis of different media products, language and representations, as well as developing practical skills in response to a brief. Students will explore contemporary, diverse topics and varied engaging content which develops research, problem solving, debate and creativity.

Component 1: Media Language, Representations, Industries and Audiences

This component of the course introduces students to different forms of media, including: advertising and marketing, music videos, radio, newspapers and film. Through theoretical exploration, students will conduct a case study (or Close Study Product), an in-depth analysis of at least one audio visual, one print and one online social and participatory media form and context.

Component 2: Media Forms

This part of the course will focus on an exploration of media forms of television, magazines and online, social and participatory media/video games.

Component 3: Creating a Cross Media Production

Students will apply their knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework from components 1 and 2 to respond to a brief, and create a media product for a specific form, audience and context.

Entry Requirements

GCSE Grade 6
MYP Grade 5

Previous study is **desirable**

All students are expected to have acquired at least 5x 4-9 GCSE grades (or equivalent) including English and Maths prior to joining

Course Structure	Assessment Type	Weighting
Component 1 and 2: Media Language, Representation, Industries, Audiences and Forms	Written Examination: 2x 120 minutes	70% (35% each)
Component 3: Cross-Media Production	Cross-Media Production	30%

Useful Links for Additional Information:

- [Media Studies Specification - AQA](#)
- [Media Studies Pathways - UCAS](#)

Music (AQA - 7272)

Summary:

Component 1: Performance

Solo and/or ensemble performing as an instrumentalist, or vocalist and/or music production (via technology) for minimum of 10 minutes.

Component 2: Composition

Students compose two compositions, of at least four and a half minutes combined duration: one composition to a brief set by AQA and one free choice composition.

Component 3: Appraising

Section A (56 marks): Listening questions based on unfamiliar music.

Students will be asked to describe the music they hear and identify key musical features.

Section B (34 marks): Extended response questions based on the key set works. Baroque solo concertos, the operas of Mozart,

Section C (30 marks): Essay response questions based on two of the following areas of study, Pop music, Music for media,, Music for theatre, Jazz, Contemporary traditional music, Art music since 1910.

Entry Requirements

GCSE **Grade 6**
MYP **Grade 5**

Previous study is **essential**

All students are expected to have acquired at least 5x 4-9 GCSE grades (or equivalent) including English and Maths prior to joining

Course Structure	Assessment Type	Weighting
Component 1: Performance	Externally Moderated: 10 minute performance	35%
Component 2: Composition	Externally Moderated: 2 compositions	25%
Component 3: Appraising	Written Examination: 150 minutes	40%

Useful Links for Additional Information:

- [Music Specification - AQA](#)
- [Music Pathways - UCAS](#)

Photography (Edexcel - 9PY0)

Summary:

Photography allows students to expand their creative horizons through taking and editing photographs. Students are also encouraged to contextualise their work and develop an understanding of the creative process in industries using photography.

You will explore practical and critical/contextual work through a range of processes and media within the discipline of digital photography.

Students will develop integrated knowledge, skills and understanding of the following:

- The principles of digital photography, including the pixel and digital processing.
- Viewpoint, white balance, composition, focus, aperture, shutter speed, exposure, shooting modes, histograms.
- The use and qualities of image acquisition hardware and software, image manipulation and analogies between digital and other forms of photography.
- The relationship between colour and tone for screen and print based media, screen calibration, colour gamut, file formats such as raw, jpeg, tiff, png

Entry Requirements

GCSE Grade 6
MYP Grade 5

Previous study is **desirable**

All students are expected to have acquired at least 5x 4-9 GCSE grades (or equivalent) including English and Maths prior to joining

Course Structure	Assessment Type	Weighting
Component 1: Personal Portfolio	Internal Assessment: Students will produce a portfolio of work based on tasks agreed with the teacher.	60%
Component 2: Externally Set Assignment	Internal Assessment: Students will produce preparatory studies and personal outcome(s) based on a theme set by Edexcel.	40%

Useful Links for Additional Information:

- [Photography Specification - Edexcel](#)
- [Photography Pathways - UCAS](#)

Physical Education (AQA - 7582)

Summary:

Component 1:

Factors affecting participation in physical activity and sport

Section A: Applied anatomy and physiology

Section B: Skill acquisition

Section C: Sport and society

Component 2:

Factors affecting optimal performance in physical activity and sport

Section A: Exercise physiology and biomechanics

Section B: Sport psychology

Section C: Sport and society and technology in sport

Component 3:

Practical performance in physical activity and sport

Students assessed as a performer or coach in the full sided version of one activity.

Students will also be moderated on their written/verbal analysis of performance.

Entry Requirements

GCSE **Grade 6**
MYP **Grade 5**

Previous study is **desirable**

All students are expected to have acquired at least 5x 4-9 GCSE grades (or equivalent) including English and Maths prior to joining

Course Structure	Assessment Type	Weighting
Component 1	Written Examination: 120 minutes	35%
Component 2	Written Examination: 120 minutes	35%
Component 3	External Moderation	30%

Useful Links for Additional Information:

- [Physical Education Specification - AQA](#)
- [Physical Education Pathways - UCAS](#)

Physics (Edexcel - 9PH0)

Summary:

The Physics A Level course encompasses the study of the universe, from the largest galaxies to the smallest subatomic particles. You will be studying how the laws of energy and matter combine with the fundamental forces of nature. A Physics course will teach you to be a problem solver and a creative and analytical thinker. Physics can open doors to a variety of careers in areas as wide ranging as astronomy, law, finance, engineering, medicine, journalism, biology or computer science.

Paper 1 topics:

Working as a Physicist; Mechanics; Electric circuits; Further Mechanics; Electric and Magnetic Fields; Nuclear & Particle Physics.

Paper 2 topics:

Working as a Physicist; Materials; Waves and Particle Nature of Light; Thermodynamics; Space; Nuclear Radiation; Gravitational Fields; Oscillations.

Assessment:

There are three externally assessed examinations at A Level. Students are also required to complete twelve core practicals and these will be internally assessed. Paper 3 examines students on all topics and practical application skills, whereas Papers 1 and 2 focus on specific topics.

Entry Requirements

GCSE **Grade 6**
MYP **Grade 5**

Previous study is **essential**

All students are expected to have acquired at least 5x 4-9 GCSE grades (or equivalent) including English and Maths prior to joining

Course Structure	Assessment Type	Weighting
Component 1: Paper 1	Written Examination: 105 minutes	30%
Component 2: Paper 2	Written Examination: 105 minutes	30%
Component 3: Paper 3	Written Examination: 150 minutes	40%

Useful Links for Additional Information:

- [Physics Specification - Edexcel](#)
- [Physics Pathways - UCAS](#)

Politics (AQA - 9PL0)

Summary:

The politics course reflects the demands of a truly modern and evolving political environment in the UK and around the world, aiming to inculcate students with a core knowledge and understanding of politics. Global politics, as well as U.S. and U.K. politics will be used as a springboard for developing critical and analytical thinking skills, exploring contemporary issues, ideas and institutions, and developing an understanding of the mechanisms that make the world work. With the chance to study political ideas and movements such as conservatism, liberalism, feminism, multiculturalism and nationalism, Politics provides an excellent springboard for further study or careers in law, journalism, civil service, diplomacy, government and politics, marketing and public relations.

Entry Requirements

GCSE **Grade 6**
MYP **Grade 5**

Previous study of History is **desirable**

All students are expected to have acquired at least 5x 4-9 GCSE grades (or equivalent) including English and Maths prior to joining. 6+ in History and English is desirable

Component 1: UK Politics

Exploring the nature of politics and how people engage with political systems, as viewed through the lens of the UK

Component 2: UK Government

Exploring how government works, examining political ideas such as liberalism, feminism and conservatism

Component 3: Comparative Politics

The comparison of either U.S. or global political systems with those of the UK.

Course Structure	Assessment Type	Weighting
Component 1: UK Politics	Written Examination: 120 minutes	33 1/3%
Component 2: UK Government	Written Examination: 120 minutes	33 1/3%
Component 3: Comparative Politics (Global/U.S. Politics)	Written Examination: 120 minutes	33 1/3%

Useful Links for Additional Information:

- [A Level Politics Specification](#)
- [A Level Politics Academic and Career Pathways](#)

Psychology (AQA - 7182)

Entry Requirements

GCSE Grade 6
MYP Grade 5

Previous study is **desirable**

All students are expected to have acquired at least 5x 4-9 GCSE grades (or equivalent) including English and Maths prior to joining

Summary:

Component 1: Introductory Topics in Psychology

There are four compulsory topics covering multiple choice, short open and extended essay questions.

- **Topic 1:** Social Influence
- **Topic 2:** Memory
- **Topic 3:** Attachment
- **Topic 4:** Psychopathology

Component 2: Psychology in Context

There are four compulsory topics covering multiple choice, short open and extended essay questions.

- **Topic 6:** Approaches in Psychology
- **Topic 7:** Biopsychology
- **Topic 8:** Research Methods

Component 3: Issues and Options in Psychology

There are three options sections and one topic from each section must be studied.

- **Option 1:** Relationships/Gender/Cognition and Development
- **Option 2:** Schizophrenia/Eating Behaviour/Stress
- **Option 3:** Aggression/Forensic Psychology/Addiction

Course Structure	Assessment Type	Weighting
Component 1: Paper 1	Written Examination: 120 minutes	33.33%
Component 2: Paper 2	Written Examination: 120 minutes	33.33%
Component 3: Paper 3	Written Examination: 120 minutes	33.33%

Useful Links for Additional Information:

- [Psychology Specification - AQA](#)
- [Psychology Pathways - Prospects](#)

Spanish (AQA - 7692)

Entry Requirements

GCSE **Grade 6**
MYP **Grade 5**

Previous study is **essential**

All students are expected to have acquired at least 5x 4-9 GCSE grades (or equivalent) including English and Maths prior to joining

Summary:

The AQA A-level in Spanish has been designed with stimulating content to enable students to develop their linguistic skills alongside their understanding of the culture and society of the countries where Spanish is spoken.

Year 12

Throughout Year 12, students will study:

- One Spanish film.
- Aspects of Hispanic society (Values, cyberspace and equal rights).
- Artistic culture (Modern day idols, regional identity and cultural heritage).

Year 13

Throughout Year 13, students will study:

- Multiculturalism in Hispanic society (Immigration, Racism and Integration).
- Aspects of political life in the Hispanic world
(Today's youth - tomorrow's citizens, monarchies & dictatorships and popular movements).
- One Spanish piece of literature.

Course Structure	Assessment Type	Weighting
Paper 1: Listening, Reading & Writing	Written Examination: 150 minutes	50%
Paper 2: Writing	Written Examination: 120 minutes	20%
Paper 3: Speaking	Speaking Examination: 21-23 minutes	30%

Useful Links for Additional Information:

- [Spanish Specification - AQA](#)
- [Spanish Pathways - UCAS](#)



Additional Academic Qualifications

Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)

Summary:

The EPQ is a stand-alone qualification which allows a student to select a topic and extend their expertise. Students must select a project topic that is related to one of their accompanying A-level qualifications and we would advise students to select a topic that is of personal interest, or one that will help in their desired career/industry.

Unit Selection:

Learners select one of the four units, which may be completed over one or two years:

- **Dissertation:** a theoretical written project on any topic presenting an argument, (eg research into a biological, historical or environmental issue).
- **Investigation/Field Study:** a practical investigatory project involving the collection of data, (eg a scientific investigation, a geographical study of erosion, a biological study of pollution, a statistical survey).
- **Performance:** development of practical skills resulting in a performance, (eg performing music, drama, sport).
- **Artefact:** for example making a painting or sculpture, creating a website, designing a piece of furniture or a garment, solving an engineering/construction problem, producing a piece of graphic design.

Assessment:

Learners will be assessed on their ability to plan, manage, complete and review their project:

Assessment Objective	Weighting
Manage: Identify, design, plan and carry out a project, applying a range of skills, strategies and methods to achieve objectives.	17%
Use of resources: Research, critically select, organise and use information, and select and use a range of resources. Analyse data, apply relevantly and demonstrate understanding of any links, connections and complexities of the topic.	22%
Develop and realise: Select and use a range of skills, including, where appropriate, new technologies and problem solving, to take decisions critically and achieve planned outcomes.	44%
Review: Evaluate all aspects of the extended project, including outcomes in relation to stated objectives and own learning and performance. Select and use a range of communication skills and media to present and evidence project outcomes and conclusions in an appropriate format.	17%

Useful Links for Additional Information:

- [EPQ Specification](#)



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

FAQs

How many subjects can I study?

University entry requirements usually begin with 3 A-level subjects, but this very much depends on the university that you are applying for. You have the choice at JAS to study 3 or 4 different A-level subjects and an additional Extended Project (EPQ). We will offer bespoke advice upon attending your guidance interview, advice will be based on previous achievements, interests and future aspirations.

Can I study an A-level subject without studying the GCSE?

If you have studied the GCSE in the subject you will have a greater knowledge and understanding of the A-level content. However, there are many examples of students who have successfully studied A-level courses without previously studying the GCSE. Advice and a final decision, will be made upon your guidance interview.

Are A-levels a lot harder than GCSEs?

Yes, A-levels are more challenging than a GCSE. An A-level will go into more detail and depth over more topic areas. Having said that, there are many similarities with the GCSE qualification; you will study for two years and sit examinations at the end of the course. Given the experience you gain by completing your GCSEs, and with JAS staff on hand to offer support along the way, you will be able to complete an A-level successfully if you work hard throughout.

What are the entry requirements to get on to an A-level course?

Each A-level course has different requirements, however, it is widely accepted that you must achieve a grade 6 at GCSE before considering an A-level. Some courses require more comprehensive prior knowledge, for example, you would be expected to achieve at least a grade 9 in GCSE Mathematics to study Further Mathematics at A-level.

I don't know what I want to do in the future!

Don't worry! Many students change their aspirations throughout Sixth Form or University. Whilst an aspiration can motivate you, it is not always detrimental to keep your options open throughout Sixth Form. We know there is a correlation between a student's passion and the likelihood of success, therefore, in the case where you are unsure of your aspirations, we would always advise you to follow the subjects that interest you the most.

I cannot see my preferred subject choice, what should I do?

Email us via; sixthform@jebelalishool.org we will be able to offer you more information and see if your preferred course is available.



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