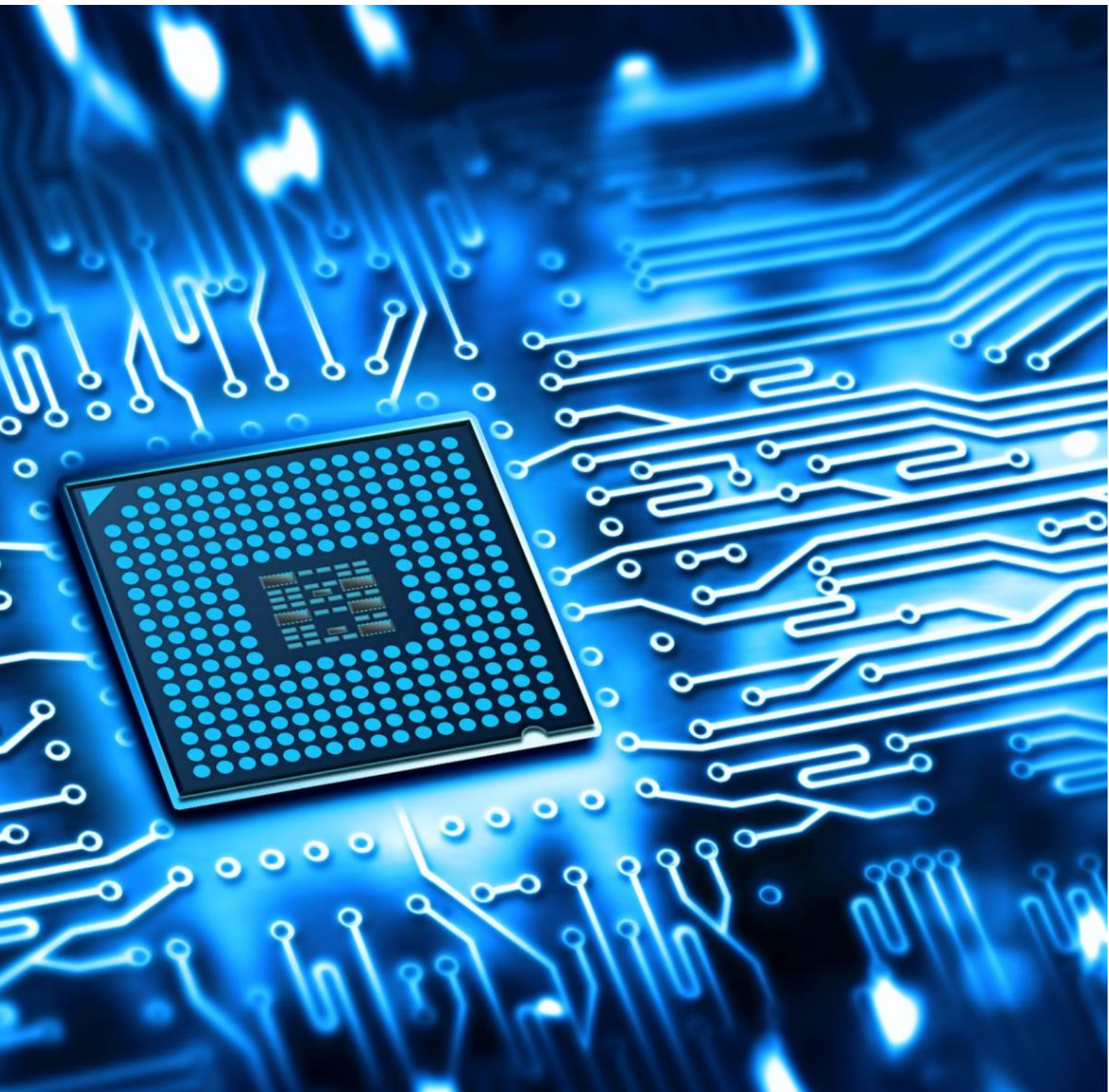


# SHERBORNE



## **Sixth Form Enrichment 2017-18**

## The Structure of Sixth Form Enrichment:

Enrichment sits within its own bespoke block in the Sixth Form curriculum, meaning that you will take your enrichment lessons at the same time as all of your peers. This is advantageous because it means we are able to offer you a choice from a wide variety of options; it also means that you have greater flexibility of choice within those courses – i.e. it should not be the case that the combination of A Levels you have already chosen precludes certain combinations of enrichment lessons.

The enrichment block consists of 3 or 4 parts, which occupy somewhere between 4 and 6 lessons in your timetable depending on your choices. The diagram below shows the separate elements of the programme.



**PSHE:** Building on the success of PSHE in the lower school, you will study a compulsory carousel of short PSHE modules 1 lesson a week throughout your time in the Sixth Form.



**AE:** You must choose one academic enrichment option from the courses listed on the next page.



**SP:** An important part of A Level study is the completion of independent work. This may include consolidation of material covered in class, subject-specific research, preparation for Hall, wider reading and planning your university application. Sixth Formers have a small number of Study Periods to help with these activities. Unwise use of Study Periods, or falling behind academically will result in the reinstatement of Supervised Study lessons instead of private Study Periods.

\* If you are taking Further Maths A Level as a Fourth A Level, you will be unable to take an Academic Enrichment option and most of your Study periods will be used for Maths tuition.

\* If you are taking Music Technology, Music, Art, or DT, by arrangement one of your SS periods may be used to work in the department on subject-specific controlled assessment / coursework.



**EPQ:** If you wish to undertake an EPQ project, you should plan to work on your project for an average of 2hrs every week. You will also need to meet regularly with your EPQ supervisor.

## Academic Enrichment – An Overview:

You must choose one academic enrichment option. There are a large number of options to choose from, some of which run for two year and culminate in a public exam, others are non-examined and run for just one year. Broadly speaking, there are two types of course

### a) A 'long-thin' AS / GCSE

The 'long-thin' AS / GCSE earned its name because, if you choose to take one, you will study it for two years (that's the 'long' part) before sitting the public examinations at the end of your Upper Sixth. In other words, there are no public exams half-way through (although you will have internal exams and tests). Similar to reformed A Levels, you can't 'get off half way through' and so, by choosing to take a long-thin AS / GCSE you are making a commitment to study this subject for two years.

The 'thin' part of the name stems from the fact that you will only have three or four lessons per week devoted to study. Because 'long-thin' courses have such a small footprint within the working week, they are probably the more challenging of the academic enrichment options available to you, so please think carefully and realistically about your available time, workload and the balance of your other co-curricular commitments before picking this type of academic enrichment option. Partly because of the two-year commitment, and also because spaces on the course are limited (we are only able to run one class in each subject), you will not be allowed to drop your 'long-thin' AS / GCSE option if you decide to take one on. For obvious reasons, you are also not able to switch from a 'long-thin' AS to an A Level option later in the year – i.e. the 'long-thin' AS stands entirely separately from your three A Level choices.

Eleven subjects are on offer as 'long-thin' examined courses, many of which are new to Sherborne. For more details, please read the descriptors on the next pages and / or contact the teachers whose initials appear there.

Please also note that if you are taking Further Maths as a Fourth A Level, you are unable to take a 'long-thin' AS / GCSE course as the space these courses take up in your timetable is occupied by your Further Maths lessons!

### b) A non-examined academic course

These options last for just one year, meaning that if you choose one of these options you will need to choose a second option in your Upper Sixth. As the name suggests, these courses do not culminate in a public exam certification, though that doesn't in any way detract from their utility or worth. Many of these courses are skills-based and provide you with the opportunity to learn to do something that you would not otherwise be able to undertake in 'normal' A Level lessons.

A full list of courses will be published in September when you make your choices. However, for reference, non-examined courses offered in last year's enrichment programme included: **Film, Arabic, Art, Music, Practical Biology** (for boys taking Biology A Level), **Photography, Debating, MOOCS, Music Technology, Greek and Drama**.

Other courses may be available too, so don't make a firm decision yet! All non-examined academic courses receive either one or two lessons of tuition a week and run for the whole year.



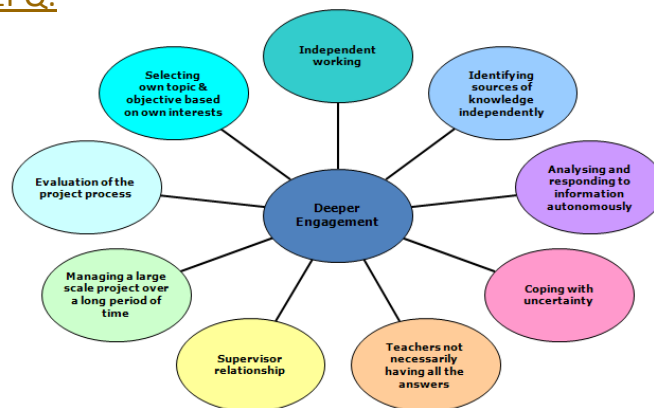
## The Extended Project Qualification (EPQ):

The EPQ is very different to other subjects on offer in the Sixth Form for two main reasons:

- You have complete autonomy over what you study. You must produce either an artefact or a 5000 word essay, but the subject material your project is based upon is absolutely up to you.
- Partly because of the first reason, the EPQ is not a taught course; in fact, your teachers might not be able to help you with the actual research very much at all. You'll have a supervisor – someone you meet with weekly who gives you support, help with research, assistance with drafting and, ultimately, the person who marks your project – but it is important to understand that your supervisor will not 'teach you' the content of your project. Because of this the EPQ is classed as a completely independent, pupil-directed project.

You will complete your EPQ over four terms, ultimately submitting (and then presenting to parents and teachers) your project in the Lent Term of your Upper Sixth. Technically, the EPQ is an AS, although as it is recognised as being of the same standard as A Level exams, it is the only AS in which you can receive an A\* grade. Taking on an EPQ project is not easy: you need to be self-directed, resilient, focused, motivated and organised. You also need to love the subject you're researching as most students read somewhere between 50 and 300 sources in the process of researching and writing their EPQ. The EPQ is well-respected by universities (some people even get offers incorporating it) because it helps you to learn in the same way you will at university, incorporating the same skills you'll need then. In fact, many of these skills form part of the way the EPQ is assessed, so it may help to think of the EPQ as an assessed **process** that takes you from where you are now to being ready for undergraduate life at university.

## Skills forming part of the EPQ:



## What happens next?

<b>This Term:</b>	<p>Read this booklet!</p> <p>Go over your options with your tutor.</p> <p>Talk with friends and family.</p> <p>Find out more about the courses available to you by talking with teachers and HoDs</p>
<b>During the Summer:</b>	<p>Go over your options with your parents.</p> <p>Reflect on your GCSE results.</p> <p>Think about how the various options might affect your UCAS application.</p> <p>Make a decision about the EPQ.</p> <p>If relevant, think about a subject for your EPQ project.</p>
<b>Next Term:</b>	<p>Attend the Sixth Form induction: <b>10:15am on Tue 5 Sept (Powell)</b></p> <p>Attend the Sixth Form enrichment talk: <b>5:30pm on Wed 6 Sept (Powell)</b></p> <p>Attend the introduction to EPQ: <b>5:30pm on Thur 7 Sept (JCR)</b></p> <p>Complete your choices: <b>12:00am on Mon 11 Sept</b></p> <p>Begin attending lessons in enrichment subjects: <b>8:30am on Mon 18 Sept</b></p>

## Academic Enrichment – Course Outlines:

In this section you will find details of the 13 'long thin' AS and GCSE courses running across three lessons of the Sixth Form enrichment block. Each course is terminally examined in Trinity 2019 (your last term in the Upper Sixth).

### 1. Ancient Greek GCSE

Classical Greek GCSE is offered as an enrichment option both to those who have not studied Greek before and to those who started in the Third Form, but did not continue. The benefit and enjoyment of Classical Greek alongside Latin is obvious, as is its value alongside any modern language. It will also increase your English vocabulary immensely and will aid in your understanding of English grammar. Classical Greek will not only fill your mind with useful knowledge, but will also form your mind and spirit. Greek, as well as Latin, implants the habits of precision and attention to detail. Intellectual rigour is at its heart. A two-year fast-track GCSE in Classical Greek is truly enrichment.

The method of assessment of Classical Greek is the same as that of Latin. The GCSE is made up of three units: one language paper, worth 50% of your total GCSE mark, and two literature papers, each worth 25%. You will learn a new alphabet, develop your understanding of language structures, learn how to write Greek and, most importantly, and enjoyably, begin to read selections from Homer's *Odyssey* or Euripides' *Iphigenia in Aulis*, and from Herodotus' *Histories*.

SAH

### 2. Art AS Level

Explore your creativity through a visually challenging and diverse course that will tease the very best out of you creatively, critically and contextually.

You will be taught by teachers from a variety of specialisms and have access to facilities that will stretch your abilities in the more traditional skills of drawing, painting and printmaking, whilst also enabling you to expand your knowledge in digital manipulation and darkroom experiences.

No longer is Art the preserve of the elite. Why not explore your ideas visually, conceptually or digitally - seeing is believing!

JEW

### 3. Astronomy GCSE

The Astronomy GCSE is an opportunity to expand your understanding about the fascinating universe in which we live. The course encompasses the practical study of Astronomy and the theoretical too. You will gain experience of using a range of different telescopes and be able to find your way around the night sky. We will start off with arguably the oldest science - the cavemen stared up in wonder at the night sky and pondered the nature of the wandering stars - and we will finish with ideas of Dark Matter and Dark Energy which are cutting-edge research problems. This is a two-year course and is assessed via two pieces of coursework and a two hour exam.

MDT

#### 4. Biology AS Level

The course offers an understanding of scientific knowledge in the biological world and its social, economic and environmental importance in everyday life. Currently, the course follows the CIE examinations syllabus, with a multiple choice paper and a short answer paper making up the written part of the examination. A terminal practical examination makes up approximately a quarter of the marks.

Topics covered include, cells, biological molecules, protein synthesis, transport, infectious disease and immunity, all of which build on the knowledge of the GCSE Triple or Dual Award specifications.

The course would suit anyone who wishes to continue their general scientific interest or to complement full A level study in other subjects. The course also adds weight to those Further Educational courses that do not specifically require A level Biology, but benefit from a rounded scientific understanding, such as some Bioengineering and Ecology courses.

JPM

#### 5. Economics AS Level

The Edexcel AS level Economics specification offers up-to-date economic theory and rigorous yet engaging content, covering topics such as the need for carbon emissions trading or why the prices of shares on the stock market change. Taking an enquiring, critical and thoughtful approach to the subject, students will develop the ability to think like an economist, and an appreciation of the contribution of economics to an understanding of the wider economic and social environment

The course is assessed by 2 written examination papers, both 1 ½ hours in duration. Paper 1 will assess microeconomics. The paper comprises two sections. Section A comprises a range of multiple-choice and short-answer questions. Section B comprises one data response question broken down into a number of parts, including a choice of extended open-response questions. Paper 2 will assess macroeconomics. The paper comprises two sections. Section A comprises a range of multiple-choice and short-answer questions. Section B comprises one data response question broken down into a number of parts, including a choice of extended open-response questions.

RTBH

#### 6. English Language AS Level

OCR's English Language AS will help the English department in its goal of sending boys into the world expressing themselves not only articulately but also accurately. It will also build on the work of IGCSE, in which we help them gauge a range of tones. The course's two exams (each of 90 mins) will raise students' game in exposing them to written and spoken English in all its forms, and will give them the tools they need to analyse it. As they explore the ways in which words' meanings have changed, or how spelling has developed from before dictionaries to the age of the tweet, their technical appreciation of the language will help ensure that they take the right care over their own expression, and make them respond effectively to English in the modern world. Boys will study English in the context of the big issues facing the language – how do the dynamics of power affect it? How does it reflect gender? The course can support applications to universities, particularly in Philosophy, History, Sociology, Anthropology, Drama and English itself.

RDP

#### 7. Electronics AS

The course covers circuit rules and simple components such as diodes, transistors, logic gates, and other semiconductor components. There is an emphasis on mono and astable signal generators and the use of the 555 chip to achieve this.

Controlled assessment involves writing a design project to solve a problem with an electronic solution. The project has distinct phases of design, construction, testing and evaluation. The course would suit those looking to study engineering or physics at university. A good working knowledge of GCSE maths is very important especially algebra.

MDT

## 8. Geology GCSE

Blessed with the Jurassic Coastline and the heights of Dartmoor we study in a location bound by our geology. Although often seen as an underground influence on our landscape, Sherborne's whole character is defined by the Jurassic Limestone that distinguishes the architecture.

Geology explores the creation of those rocks, often in a distant location and follows the UK, over time, as it slowly moved from the Equator northwards to its current latitude. Granite, limestone, chalk, sandstone and marble are all iconic materials and their formation, role in industrial processes and eventual decay sit at the core of this topic. Fossils and dinosaurs enable dating of rocks but also tell a story of the evolution of life.

The Geology GCSE combines two elements; a fieldwork project and a computer based examination. The most recent excursion was to Durdle Door and Swanage to explore the Purbeck monocline. The GCSE course is extremely useful to those studying A Level Geography but equally combines with all the sciences; however there are no prerequisites to the course.

TRM

## 9. Government & Politics AS Level

'Politics is the art of looking for trouble, finding it everywhere, diagnosing it incorrectly and applying the wrong remedies.' Groucho Marx. How accurate is this quip? If you are intrigued then please read on.

Who will you vote for and why? Why did UKIP get 3.8 million votes at the 2015 General Election but only 1 seat whereas the SNP got 1.45 million votes and 56 seats? Is it right we have a party in government that was endorsed by only 24% of eligible voters? Should the unelected House of Lords be abolished? What measures could be taken to increase voting amongst 18-24 years olds (only 43% bothered at the last election)? Why are political parties often as divided as they are united? Where does real power lie in Britain? Who is more powerful – the Prime Minister or Parliament? Who really makes policy – elected politicians or powerful interest groups? Brexit or Bremain? This is just a sample of some of the questions and issues we examine in Government and Politics. If you enjoy reading about current affairs, debating contemporary political issues from competing informed perspectives and can write articulately then you have the ingredients to do well in Government and Politics.

The course is assessed in two separate 1 hour 20 minute essay-based papers where arguments must be supported by evidence. This is a great subject for anyone interested in how and why political decisions are made. Not only will the course whet your academic appetite for university choices including Politics, International Relations and Strategic Studies, but it gives you a greater awareness about the events and processes that shape our lives in Britain. It also gives you material to debate with cab drivers.

RLP

## 10. Modern Foreign Language AS Levels

Are you keen to keep up and develop your language skills after GCSE?

If you choose the long, thin AS in French, German or Spanish you will develop your spoken and written fluency in the language. You will learn in more depth about your chosen language's culture, history, society and arts. Universities value language studies and taking language modules in degree courses is becoming more popular, so this option will suit all Sixth Form students no matter the academic course being followed. British businesses want linguists and prize cultural awareness.

The AS is examined at the end of two years. You will be assessed in four key skills, as at GCSE, in Speaking, Listening, Reading and Writing. You will have the chance to study contemporary social issues relevant to young people, develop translation and interpretation skills plus the opportunity to explore in depth a film or work of literature in your chosen language. Small classes with an emphasis on communication, interaction, exploration and enjoyment make the long, thin languages AS an attractive offer open to all Sixth Form students.

There may also be an opportunity to take Mandarin GCSE. Please contact Mrs Thurman in the first instance.

JRT

## 11. Marine Science AS Level

Want to find out how about the biochemistry of the marine environment, or how a coral reef works? Ever wondered how nutrients are cycled in the deep oceans or why aquatic food chains are longer than terrestrial ones? Interested in the formation and function of the physical landforms of the sea bed?

If the answer is yes to any of these questions then this course is for you! It's essentially a rigorous introduction to Oceanography or Marine Biology and, whether you're considering studying this subject at university, or just want to understand the natural world around you at greater depth (see what I did there), then sign up for this AS course.

TWF

## 12. Mathematics AS Level

The analytic and logical strengths developed in AS-level Mathematics complement the essay-writing and generic research skills developed in other subjects, demonstrating a well-rounded individual. In the world today: it is a great advantage to be able to understand and communicate mathematically.

The long thin AS-level Mathematics course is aimed at boys who have enjoyed their Mathematical studies so far and wish to continue with them, who are also sure they will not need a full A-level Mathematics for their chosen course of study at university. Boys who are considering applying for Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Engineering and some Economics degrees should take the full A-level Mathematics and possibly the Further Mathematics A-level.

The 'long thin' AS Mathematics course will be taught within 3 lessons per week, with 3 unit examinations: Core 1, Core 2 and Statistics 1 at the end the 2 years. Core 1 and 2 review and extend IGCSE topics such as Indices and Surds, Inequalities, Solving and Sketching Polynomials, Differentiation and Trigonometry in addition to introducing new areas of Mathematics such as The Binomial Theorem, Integration, Exponentials and Logarithms and Formal Proof. The Statistics 1 module also reviews and extends topics first met in IGCSE such as probability, measures of location and spread, histograms, then introduces new measures such as Standard Deviation, Variance and new topics such as The Binomial Distribution and Hypothesis Testing, in addition, applying these techniques to analyse real world data.

SCL

## 13. Philosophy AS Level

- Where is the green in a tree?
- Is it possible to count all the objects in a room?
- How can there be an infinite number of points on a circle the size of a penny *and* on a circle the size of the world?

These are all questions posed, and sometimes even answered, by philosophers. In this course you will question some of your most profound beliefs and will end up seeing the world in a radically different way. Languages, science and maths all have philosophical aspects to them and this course would make a good accompaniment to anyone specialising in these areas. Unlike the GCSE or the full A Level, the Philosophy AS does not focus entirely on the Philosophy of Religion, but also looks at more purely philosophical ideas such as what is knowledge and how do we get it, and what is meant by the self?

JAC