

Sixth Form Curriculum



FINBOROUGH
SCHOOL

The best preparation for life

Courses commencing September 2023

Deputy Headteacher's Welcome

At the top of the school, our Sixth Form is open to students from our own Year 11 and all young adults joining us for post-16 education. They will join a thriving and growing community, with a rich curriculum, and a wealth of opportunities.

All of our students enjoy individualised programmes built both around academic success and to offer the best preparation for life. We focus intently on their progress and the requisite learning skills for both their academic studies and for going forward to university and beyond.

We offer an unrivalled level of support and challenge, with close academic and pastoral care, made possible by small classes, excellent teaching, and an exceptional attention to detail. Our post-16 curriculum is ever evolving, with a constant development in courses and the range of subjects offered. Our unique '*Learnability*' approach engenders a powerful self-awareness that results in the motivation required to navigate successfully through A-Levels and other appropriate courses. All of our students have an experienced and knowledgeable member of staff that they meet with regularly to supply the appropriate level of challenge and support as required.

Developing well rounded young adults who have the aspiration and confidence for success is achieved through our '*7 Habits of Highly Effective People*' signature programme. This dovetails beautifully with a plethora of experiences on offer that make our students stand out from the crowd.

At Finborough, every student is known exceptionally well, and we pride ourselves on providing a bespoke experience that ensures the best possible future university and career options. Our Sixth Form students are outstanding young people who make a tremendous contribution to the school. They make excellent progress whilst developing the life skills that set them apart from others of their age and, most importantly, they enjoy two wonderfully formative years that establish the strongest foundations for exceptional futures.



Barry Collins
Deputy Headteacher (Senior School)

Summary of Courses

<u>A-Levels</u>	<u>Other Level 3 Qualifications (A-Level equivalent)</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Art ● Biology ● Business ● Chemistry ● Computer Science ● Economics ● English Literature ● French ● Geography ● History ● Mathematics ● Music ● Photography ● Physical Education ● Physics ● Psychology ● Spanish 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Personal Training (Level 3 Diploma) ● Sports Coaching (BTEC Level 3 Diploma) ● Criminology (Applied Level 3 Diploma) ● Digital Media (Level 3 Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate) ● Dance (BTEC Level 3 Diploma) ● Performing Arts (BTEC Level 3 Diploma) ● Performing Arts Skills Awards (unique Finborough qualification)
<u>Other available pathways (not timetabled, but arranged around each individual student):</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sports Professionals - a bespoke programme built around each student to support their development and progress in their chosen sporting field ● Arts Professionals - a similarly bespoke programme built around each student to support their develop and progress in their chosen area of the Arts 	



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Art, Craft and Design	
Qualification	A-Level
Course outline	<p>This course offers students the opportunity to develop their abilities in a variety of practical disciplines. There is a strong academic element with critical thinking and contextual analysis as well as concept generating.</p> <p>Component 1: students develop work based on an idea, issue, concept or theme leading to a finished outcome or a series of related finished outcomes. Their practical elements should make connections with some aspect of contemporary or past practice of artist(s), designer(s), photographers or craftspeople and will be supported by written work of 1000-3000 words.</p> <p>Component 2: students respond to a title, provided by AQA, to produce work which provides evidence of their ability to work independently within specified time constraints, developing a personal and meaningful response which addresses all the assessment objectives and leads to a finished outcome or a series of related finished outcomes produced under exam conditions.</p>
Nature of the lessons	The lessons are practical based and very much student led. The small class sizes mean that lessons are adaptable to allow students to pursue their personal interests. Due to the coursework based assessment it does mean that every lesson counts and students must be motivated to work with a high level of focus at all times. Students are also expected to spend a minimum of an extra 4 hours a week in the Art studio continuing their work independently.
Assessment	<p>Component 1 = 96 marks = 60%</p> <p>Component 2 = 96 marks = 40%</p> <p>Each component is marked against 4 Assessment Objectives with equal weighting. All Assessment Objectives relate to each other and so each component is marked holistically.</p>
Exam board / links to further information	AQA
Links with other subjects / careers	<p>Art, Craft and Design is a great companion to all other subjects as creativity, imagination and problem solving skills can give you great ideas for your other subjects.</p> <p>Studying an Art, Craft and Design related degree at university can give you all sorts of exciting career options, including: Animator, Architect, Art therapist, Cartoonist, Computer game designer, Exhibition designer, Fashion designer, Film/video maker, Furniture designer, Graphic designer, Illustrator, Interior designer, Jeweller, Museum/gallery Conservator, Printmaker, Product designer, Teacher, Theatre designer</p>
Further information	Contact Mrs Gregory (egregory@finborough.school)

<i>Biology</i>	
<i>Qualification</i>	A Level
<i>Course outline</i>	<p>There are 6 topics areas:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Practical skills in Biology 2. Foundations in Biology (the cell structure and biological molecules) 3. Exchange and Transport 4. Biodiversity, evolution and disease 5. Communication, homeostasis and energy 6. Genetics and ecosystems
<i>Nature of the lessons</i>	<p>Lessons will be a mixture of theory and practical lessons. Independent study is an integral part of the course and is required in order to cover the content of the course.</p> <p>Students are required to keep a clear set of notes that they can revise from and a separate book of practical experiments that may be requested for checking by the exam board.</p> <p>A Level Biology includes a lot of new terminology.</p>
<i>Assessment</i>	<p>There are 3 exams which are all taken at the end of Year 13:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Biological Processes (2h 15 mins) worth 37% of the course 2. Biodiversity (2h, 15 mins) worth 37% of the course 3. Unified Biology (1h, 30 mins) worth 26% of the course <p>Practical assessments are completed throughout the course</p>
<i>Exam board / links to further information</i>	OCR
<i>Links with other subjects / careers</i>	<p>Studying Biology can lead to many careers. These include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Research ■ Medicine and Healthcare ■ Agriculture ■ Ecology ■ Sport and fitness ■ Engineering ■ Education
<i>Further information</i>	Contact Mr Jordan (mjordan@finborough.school)

<i>Business</i>	
<i>Qualification</i>	A-Level
<i>Course outline</i>	<p>The course is divided into six components:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Business objectives and strategy 2. External influences on a business 3. Accounting and finance 4. Human resource management 5. Marketing 6. Operations management
<i>Nature of the lessons</i>	<p>Lessons will be theory based using a combination of presentations, videos and the course textbook. Case studies involving real businesses provide students with an insight into, and experience of how businesses work. Students are encouraged to follow current business developments in the news and think critically about contemporary business issues. A good knowledge of GCSE Mathematics will assist students with the quantitative aspects of the course. Essay writing skills will be developed during the two years and will be essential to ensure success in this course.</p>
<i>Assessment</i>	<p>Assessment is by 3 written examinations at the end of the course. Each exam is 2 hours in length and is synoptic in nature, including data response questions and a number of pieces of extended writing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exam 01 – Operating in a local business environment • Exam 02 – The UK business environment • Exam 03 - The global business environment
<i>Exam board / links to further information</i>	OCR
<i>Links with other subjects / careers</i>	<p>This A-Level in Business provides the ideal foundation for those learners who wish to pursue further study of Business or work in the field of business. It also offers a complete course for those who are interested in achieving greater understanding of what they see in the news and the world around them. It complements most other courses and is well thought of by universities if applying for an unrelated degree course.</p>
<i>Further information</i>	Contact Mrs Dey (sdey@finborough.school)

Chemistry	
Qualification	A-Level
Course outline	<p>Content is split into six teaching modules:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Development of practical skills in chemistry 2. Foundations in chemistry 3. Periodic table and energy 4. Core organic chemistry 5. Physical chemistry and transition elements 6. Organic chemistry and analysis
Nature of the lessons	<p>Many lessons are practical based, where students will be guided to become more independent as the course goes on. They will need to keep a careful record of their practical lessons as the exam board visits to check that students are able to fulfil their practical criteria.</p> <p>Other lessons will be theory based, and whilst there is a lot of theoretical content we do try to make these as interactive as possible, using molymod and balloons to make models and computer simulations. Google classroom is extensively used, with lesson content and useful information placed on there.</p>
Assessment	<p>The course is entirely assessed by three exams at the end of Year 13.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper 1: Periodic table, Elements and Physical Chemistry. This assesses modules 1, 2, 3 & 5, and is 2hrs 15min long. Paper 1 counts for 37% of the A level. • Paper 2: Synthesis and Analytical techniques. This assesses modules 1, 2, 4 & 6, and is also 2hrs 15min long. Paper 2 counts for 37% of the A level. • Paper 3: Unified Chemistry. This is a synoptic paper which assesses all modules, and is 1hr 30 mins long. It counts for 26% of the A level.
Exam board / links to further information	OCR (A)
Links with other subjects / careers	<p>Chemistry has obvious links with Biology, Physics and Maths, and whilst it can be useful to take these subjects together, an interest in Chemistry is good enough reason to take it alone. Chemistry can help you to understand the world around you, understand what's in products, and make informed decisions.</p> <p>Lots of university courses require you to take Chemistry to get in, including Medicine, Veterinary science, Dentistry and many more.</p>
Further information	Contact Mr Scholier (vscholier@finborough.school)

Computer Science	
Qualification	A-Level
Course outline	<p>This A Level has a focus on programming and the importance of computational thinking as a discipline. Students will also learn the fundamental principles of how computer systems work. This will further develop their knowledge from GCSE, as well as enabling students to learn about new topics such as binary arithmetic, programming paradigms and software development lifecycles. Students will have the opportunity to undertake a full project that covers all aspects of software development from analysis right through to implementation and evaluation.</p>
Nature of the lessons	<p>As the content is so varied, lessons will consist of a range of activities, such as practical programming projects, research based topics and theory lessons that incorporate questions, articles, activities and problem solving. Course content is delivered in a range of different ways; lecture style, research tasks, independent study, practical investigation and group work.</p>
Assessment	<p>The course is assessed by two written exams at the end of the course and a programming project. Each exam lasts 2 hour and 30 minutes.</p> <p>The first exam covers computer systems and is worth 40%. The second exam covers algorithms and programming and is also worth 40%.</p> <p>The programming project is worth 20%.</p>
Exam board / links to further information	OCR
Links with other subjects / careers	<p>Computer Science works well in combination with Physics and Maths. The course covers a broad range of aspects; these topics and skills figure in career paths such as science, technology, manufacturing, research and even medicine. Computer Science involves everyone, in every walk of life, so career opportunities are endless.</p>
Further information	Contact Miss Thomas (cthomas@finborough.school)

<i>Criminology</i>	
<i>Qualification</i>	Applied diploma (equivalent to 1 A-Level)
<i>Course outline</i>	<p>Criminology is the study of the nature, causes and control of criminal behaviour in both the individual and society. It is interdisciplinary in that it draws on concepts from psychology, psychiatry, law, and sociology. The main aim of criminologists is to find ways to predict, deter, and prevent future crimes. The course is split into 4 units:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Changing awareness of crime – learning about the wide range of different crimes and why many are not reported 2. Criminological theories – learning about why people commit crime, and the difference between deviance and criminal behaviour 3. Crime scene to courtroom – an understanding of the criminal justice system 4. Crime and punishment – evaluation of the effectiveness of social control in delivering criminal justice policy
<i>Nature of the lessons</i>	<p>Students will learn in such a way that they develop:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • skills required for independent learning and development • a range of generic and transferable skills • the ability to solve problems • the skills of project-based research, development and presentation • the fundamental ability to work alongside other professionals, in a professional environment • the ability to apply learning in vocational contexts
<i>Assessment</i>	Unit 1 and Unit 3 are internally assessed through assignments. Each assignment has a brief that sets out the reason for completing the task that would benefit society. The tasks are set each year by the exam board. Unit 2 and Unit 4 are assessed by an external exam. Each of these are 1 hour and 30 minutes in duration, and consist of 75 marks
<i>Exam board / links to further information</i>	WJEC
<i>Links with other subjects / careers</i>	An understanding of criminology is relevant to many job roles within the criminal justice sector, including police officers, probation and prison officers, and social workers. Criminology graduates are also attractive to employers outside the criminal justice sector in areas such as social research and politics.
<i>Further information</i>	Contact Mr Clark (sclark@finborough.school)

<i>Dance</i>	
<i>Qualification</i>	BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Performance (Dance)
<i>Course outline</i>	<p>This course will have practical elements with many performance opportunities. Parts of the course have elements of written work. This will be through research, log books and evaluations all compiled in a portfolio. The course is designed to enhance any dance style, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ballet • Contemporary • Modern • Jazz <p>There is the flexibility to choose different units which allows us to make this more bespoke to those taking the course, allowing us to play to the strengths of our students as well as developing new things. Below are some examples of the course units studied:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group Performance Workshop • Developing Skills and Techniques for Performance • Jazz Dance Technique • Choreography for Live Performance • Contemporary Dance Technique
<i>Nature of the lessons</i>	<p>Students will learn in such a way that they develop:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • technique of a variety of styles of dance • skills required for choreography • the ability to work as a team <p>The course is such that everything counts from the moment you begin lessons making this suitable for someone who perhaps struggles with the stress of final exams as this is continuous study.</p>
<i>Assessment</i>	As this is a BTEC qualification, the work is assessed throughout the two years. Final grades awarded will be Pass, Merit, Distinction and Distinction*. This is a two year Dance course which is equivalent to one A Level, with the same amount of UCAS points for university or further education. One of the units is assessed externally whilst the other 4 are assessed internally.
<i>Exam board / links to further information</i>	Pearson Edexcel
<i>Links with other subjects / careers</i>	This practical course is ideal preparation for a course or career in the performing arts. A common mistake is that this just means performing however there are so many things that this could lead to for example dance therapist, dance journalist, community arts teacher to name just a few.
<i>Further information</i>	Contact Mrs McMillan (rmcmillan@finborough.school)

Digital Media	
Qualification	OCR Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate (equivalent to 1 A-Level)
Course outline	<p>Digital Media is the study of how media texts are conceptualised, produced and edited to suit a particular brief and appeal to a target audience. It encourages pupils to investigate real-world examples of a range of media texts, including film, television, online media, news, advertising and marketing. They will then apply this knowledge and research to crafting and developing their own media pieces, which could compete in existing markets. The course involves three core modules:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit 1: Media Products and Audiences • Unit 2: Pre-production and planning • Unit 3: Create a Media Product <p>Additional optional modules will be studied alongside these, such as 'Advertising Media'; however, these will be chosen to suit the students within each class.</p>
Nature of the lessons	<p>Debate and discussion around issues within media production or representation will be the cornerstone of Digital Media lessons. Pupils will be encouraged to engage with a range of industries, where they will critically analyse a wide variety of contemporary and historical media texts.</p> <p>Students will become proficient in understanding and responding to a creative media brief. Research methods used by media companies, such as market research, will be evaluated and applied within students' own pre-production planning. Within production, pupils will be taught a range of design skills on different platforms.</p>
Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit 1: 2-hour examination worth 80 marks - a mixture of short, medium and extended response questions • Unit 2: 2-hour examination worth 80 marks - a number of short, medium and extended questions based upon a case study scenario • Unit 3: internally assessed coursework folder consisting of proposals, plans and final product, responding to a creative brief
Exam board / links to further information	OCR
Links with other subjects / careers	Digital Media explores so many elements of industry and production that it could lead to a range of careers across business and creative fields. The course can enable pupils to enter higher education or apprenticeships within subjects such as business, marketing, media and design.
Further information	Contact Mrs Rande (vrande@finborough.school)

Economics	
Qualification	A-Level
Course outline	<p>The course is divided into 3 components:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Microeconomics is the branch of Economics that pertains to decisions made at the individual level, such as the choices individual consumers and firms make after evaluating resources, costs, and trade-offs. 2. Macroeconomics which is the branch of Economics that studies the behaviour and performance of an economy as a whole. 3. Themes in Economics which is a synoptic component where students are encouraged to make reasoned and informed judgements using both qualitative and quantitative evidence.
Nature of the lessons	<p>Lessons will be theory based using a combination of presentations, videos and the course textbook. Case studies involving real economic situations provide students with an insight into, and experience of how households, firms and the government make economic decisions. Students are encouraged to take an interest in current affairs and think critically about contemporary economic issues. A good knowledge of GCSE Mathematics will assist students with the quantitative aspects of the course. Essay writing skills will be developed during the two years and will be essential to ensure success in this course.</p>
Assessment	<p>Assessment is by 3 written exams at the end of the course. Each exam is 2 hours in length and includes multiple choice and data response questions and a number of pieces of extended writing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Exam 01 – Microeconomics ● Exam 02 – Macroeconomics ● Exam 03 - Themes in Economics
Exam board / links to further information	OCR
Links with other subjects / careers	<p>This A-Level in Economics provides the ideal foundation for those learners who wish to pursue further study of Economics at university or work in the field of business, finance or accounting. It also offers a complete course for those who are interested in achieving greater understanding of what they see in the news and the world around them. It complements most other courses and is well thought of by universities if applying for unrelated degree courses</p>
Further information	Contact Mrs Dey (sdey@finborough.school)

English Literature	
Qualification	A-Level
Course outline	<p>There are three components to this course (AQA Literature A specification):</p> <p>Component 1: Love through the ages (examination)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section A: <i>Othello</i> by William Shakespeare Section B: Unseen Poetry Section C: comparison of <i>The Great Gatsby</i> by F. Scott Fitzgerald and pre-1900 Anthology Poems <p>Component 2: Texts in shared contexts: Modern times: Literature from 1945 to the present day (examination)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section A: <i>A Streetcar Named Desire</i> by Tennessee Williams Section B: Unseen Prose Extract Section C: comparison of <i>The Handmaid's Tale</i> by Margaret Atwood and <i>Feminine Gospels</i> poetry collection by Carol Ann Duffy <p>Component 3: Texts across time (coursework)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pupils study two texts - with some independence in the choice of texts - and then write an extended investigation of approximately 2500 words
Nature of the lessons	<p>The close reading and animated discussion of exciting literary texts forms the heart of English Literature lessons. Classic texts are brought to life via a seminar approach, using imaginative critical methods and wide background reading. We will perform poems and plays in the classroom and, wherever possible, will travel to see theatre productions.</p> <p>Essay skills are taught discretely to ensure that all pupils feel confident in writing critically and academically. Skills of formal referencing and bibliography writing are taught through the coursework element.</p>
Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Component 1 (40%) - written examination paper - 3 hours Component 2 (40%) - written examination paper - 2 hours 30 minutes Component 3 (20%) - one coursework essay of approximately 2500 words
Exam board / links to further information	AQA
Links with other subjects / careers	This is a qualification well-recognised by top universities. It provides a sound basis for a wide range of careers in law, journalism, publishing, advertising, education and the media.
Further information	Contact Mrs Rande (vrande@finborough.school)

<i>French</i>	
<i>Qualification</i>	A-Level
<i>Course outline</i>	<p>The course is split into four themes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Les changements dans la société française 2. La culture politique et artistique dans les pays francophones 3. L'immigration et la société muticulturelle française 4. L'Occupation et la Résistance
<i>Nature of the lessons</i>	<p>Lessons will enhance linguistic skills and promote and develop capacity for critical thinking on the basis of knowledge and understanding of the language, culture and society of the country or countries where the language is spoken.</p> <p>We will also work on developing control of the language system to convey meaning, using spoken and written skills, including an extended range of vocabulary, for both practical and intellectual purposes as increasingly confident, accurate and independent users of the language.</p>
<i>Assessment</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Paper 1: Listening, reading and translation (2 hours). Students will be assessed on their understanding of spoken and written French from a variety of types of authentic texts and listening material, as well as their ability to translate accurately from French into English. ● Paper 2: Written response to works and translation (2 hours 40 minutes). Students must study two discrete French works: either two literary texts, or one literary text and one film. ● Paper 3: Speaking (21-23 minutes). Task 1 (discussion on a Theme), Task 2 (presentation and discussion on student's independent research project)
<i>Exam board / links to further information</i>	Edexcel
<i>Links with other subjects / careers</i>	A language is a very versatile addition to any combination of subjects to be studied at A Level and at university. Language skills can lead directly into a career in translating, interpreting or teaching and they are also in high demand in areas such as hospitality, law, publishing and business services.
<i>Further information</i>	Contact Madame Davis (jdavis@finborough.school)

<i>Geography</i>	
<i>Qualification</i>	A-Level
<i>Course outline</i>	<p>This specification offers an issues-based approach to studying geography, enabling students to explore and evaluate contemporary geographical questions and issues such as the consequences of globalisation, responses to hazards, water insecurity and climate change. The content gives students the opportunity to develop an in-depth understanding of physical and human geography, the complexity of people and environment questions and issues, and to become critical, reflective and independent learners.</p>
<i>Nature of the lessons</i>	<p>Lessons are mainly theory based and, where the syllabus lends itself, an enquiry-led approach leads to the student becoming the investigators of a geographical issue.</p> <p>Students are expected to spend 4 days completing fieldwork, two of which should be spent on their own coursework.</p>
<i>Assessment</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper 1: Physical Topics. Written examination: 2 hours and 15 minutes 30% of the qualification • Paper 2: Human Topics. Written examination: 2 hours and 15 minutes 30% of the qualification • Paper 3: Written examination: 2 hours and 15 minutes 20% This synoptic investigation will be based on a geographical issue within a place • Coursework: Independent Investigation, non-examined assessment. 20% of the qualification
<i>Exam board / links to further information</i>	Edexcel
<i>Links with other subjects / careers</i>	<p>Geography, by its very nature and its locational approach, overlaps with many other 'A' Level subjects, but more specifically with Biology, Business Studies, and Economics.</p> <p>The course will provide a suitable foundation for those wishing to study Geography or other related courses in higher education (i.e. Earth Sciences, Transport Management, Estate Management, Travel and Tourism).</p> <p>Equally the course will be useful for those candidates wanting to pursue a geography-based career in business (logistics), various social sciences (social work), or as part of a course of general education.</p>
<i>Further information</i>	Contact Mrs Foss (nfoss@finborough.school)

<i>History</i>	
<i>Qualification</i>	A-Level
<i>Course outline</i>	<p>There are four elements to the course:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A study of the Early Tudor period 1485-1547 with a focus on political and international history during the reigns of Henry VII and Henry VIII. There is also a study of the political, religious and social challenges facing England during the 'mid-Tudor' crisis era of 1547-58. 2. A study of the USA between 1804-1865 with a focus on the causes and course of the Civil War and on the theme of westward expansion. 3. A thematic study covering 150-200 years. Popular culture and the issue of witchcraft, witch hunts and witch trials in Europe and North America 1500-1700. 4. A 'Topic Essay' of 4000 words based upon investigating and researching a historical controversy. The subject of the investigation is entirely the choice of the candidate - it can be anything!
<i>Nature of the lessons</i>	Lessons will feature narrative presentation and reading, together with discussion focussing on the issues of interpretation, assessing motive and making judgements on significance. This will be supported by visual and audio/visual materials. An interest in and curiosity to know more about people and societies and social, political and economic development are important.
<i>Assessment</i>	<p>There are three written exams at the end of Year 13:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Early Tudors and mid Tudor Crisis 1485-1558. 1 hour 30 minutes, 25% of total. 2. The USA 1804-1865. 1 hour exam 15% of the total. 3. Popular Culture and the Witchcraze of the 16th and 17th centuries.. 2 hour 30 minute exam, 40% of the total. <p>In addition, there is the 'topic essay' – a 4000 word investigation. 20% of total</p>
<i>Exam board / links to further information</i>	OCR
<i>Links with other subjects / careers</i>	A-Level history develops skills in critical analysis, judgement and efficient communication. It may qualify students to pursue degree level qualifications in History, Politics, Law, Business and many other humanities or social science based courses. Possible career paths include teaching, the law, Civil Service, local government, armed forces, heritage, tourism, human resource management, police and security services
<i>Further information</i>	Contact Mr Banks (sbanks@finborough.school)

Mathematics	
Qualification	A-Level
Course outline	<p>The course is studied under three main headings, Pure Mathematics, Statistics and Mechanics.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pure Mathematics builds on the concepts and methods in algebra, geometry and trigonometry studied for GCSE and introduces differential and integral calculus as important new disciplines. • Statistics extends GCSE coverage by introducing probability distributions and statistical hypothesis testing. • Mechanics deals with forces in equilibrium and the relationship between forces and motion.
Nature of the lessons	A lesson consists typically of a demonstration and detailed explanation of the solution to a problem, followed by practice at solving problems on this topic. Homework is set to provide further practice. Problems chosen are from the supplied textbook and from past examination papers.
Assessment	This is a fully examined course. The examinations take place at the end of Year 13 and consist of three 2 hour papers, Pure Mathematics, Pure Mathematics and Statistics, and Pure Mathematics and Mechanics.
Exam board / links to further information	OCR
Links with other subjects / careers	Strongly recommended if studying Physics or Computer Science at A level. Essential if future plans involve studying these or Mathematics or Engineering or Economics at university. The Statistics element is useful for some aspects of A level Geography. A level Mathematics is also regarded favourably by many employers in the world of business.
Further information	Contact Mr Warren (mwarren@finborough.school)

<i>Music</i>	
<i>Qualification</i>	A-Level
<i>Course outline</i>	The Music A-level course at Finborough is centred around discovery. It is highly interesting and academic in nature; promoting a personal fascination into the way that music works and functions as a unique language in itself. You will study its creation (composing), re-creation (performing), perception (listening skills) and appreciation (knowledge and understanding). You will learn to analyse a wide variety of styles including: Popular, Film, Video Games, Western Classical, World Music, Jazz, Blues.
<i>Nature of the lessons</i>	The performance element involves much practice and refinement of your ability to make music with your instrument(s) of choice, with particular focus on certain musical styles and pieces as you draw nearer to your exam. Learning how to compose music requires research and study of pieces of music in order to build knowledge and skills as you learn to compose your own pieces. Listening and appraising involves study of a broad range of pieces, practising listening but also producing written work to describe your analysis of pieces of music.
<i>Assessment</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Component 1 (30%): You will perform a prepared programme of music towards the end of the two-year course as a soloist to a small audience. The programme must last a minimum of 8 minutes and will be recorded for submission to an external examiner. • Component 2 (30%): You will compose two pieces lasting a total of at least 6 minutes. At least one of the pieces must be in response to a brief set by the exam board and both will be assessed by an external examiner. You may or may not compose using written notation. The choice is yours. • Component 3 (40%): You will take a written exam in which you will be required to convey your knowledge and understanding of the set works, placing them in context and identifying their musical features. The exam lasts 2 hours.
<i>Exam board / links to further information</i>	OCR
<i>Links with other subjects / careers</i>	A level Music is a highly regarded subject, either alongside other creative courses or in demonstrating a broader range of skills next to Science, Maths or other non-creative subjects. Whilst Music can be a useful subject for Arts and Media courses at university, the most obvious degree pathway is going on to a degree in Music, which can lead to a range of exciting career options, including becoming a professional musician, a sound technician, a music therapist, a teacher, or a private tutor. Jobs that are less directly related to a Music degree, but where a Music degree could be very valuable include arts administration, and work in radio, theatre and events management.
<i>Further information</i>	Contact Mr Griffin (jgriffin@finborough.school)

<i>Music Technology</i>	
<i>Qualification</i>	A-Level
<i>Course outline</i>	<p>On this course you will spend plenty of time in the studio and be introduced to theories of sound and learn in-depth about how technology is used to create raw ideas, produce a masterpiece and distribute recorded and live products. Throughout the course you will attend workshops taught by professionals and receive one-to-one or small-group tuition for the composition and performance requirements.</p> <p>The successful A Level Music Technologist is enthusiastic, has initiative and imagination, and enjoys a challenge. However, the most important quality is that he or she loves music and wants to learn more about the way in which it is recorded and produced.</p>
<i>Nature of the lessons</i>	<p>The Music Technology course is broken up into four units that cover the full spectrum of basic skills needed to progress to a higher level of study or to work in one of the many areas of music production.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Recording and Production Techniques: You will learn how to create high quality recordings and manipulate and master them to create technology based compositions. ● Principles of Sound and Audio Technology: A scientific and theoretical area of study in which you will learn about how sound works in the digital and live settings. ● Music Technology in Context: This covers how Music Technology has changed over time and what impact it has had on the music industry.
<i>Assessment</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Component 1: Recording (Coursework: 20%) - Students will use production tools and techniques to capture, edit, process and mix an audio recording. ● Component 2: Technology-based composition (Coursework: 20%) - Students will produce a technology-based composition through creating, editing, manipulating and structuring sounds. ● Component 3: Listening and analysing (Exam: 25%) - Students will sit a written exam in which their knowledge and understanding of recording and production techniques and principles will be tested. ● Component 4: Producing and analysing (Practical Exam: 35%) - Students will apply their knowledge and understanding of editing, mixing and production techniques in a practical exam.
<i>Exam board / links to further information</i>	Edexcel
<i>Links with other subjects / careers</i>	Music Technology can lead to a variety of careers, from sound engineering, recording studio management, professional musicians to private and school teachers or sound technicians for film, theatre, TV and radio.
<i>Further information</i>	Contact Mr Griffin (jgriffin@finborough.school)

<i>Personal Training</i>	
<i>Qualification</i>	Level 2 Certificate / Level 3 Diploma
<i>Course outline</i>	<p>The course is both theory and practical based. Students partaking in the course will complete the following qualifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 1 - Level 2 Certificate in Gym Instructing • Year 2 - Level 3 Diploma in Personal Training
<i>Nature of the lessons</i>	<p>The course is delivered through a face to face and also online learning approach, due to the course outline of theory and practical elements. Throughout the week students will have 4 lessons, split 50/50 between practical and theory. Practical elements will be aimed to complete the practical assessment and improve confidence in their delivery.</p>
<i>Assessment</i>	<p>Assessment of the course is completed through varied elements, which are carried out via:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multiple choice exam • Practical assessment • Assessment workbook • Portfolio of evidence
<i>Exam board / links to further information</i>	<p>YMCA Award Level 2 Gym Instructor</p> <p>YMCA Award Level 3 Personal Trainer</p>
<i>Links with other subjects / careers</i>	<p>If you are looking to partake in the Sports Professionals programme, this course will work well alongside the opportunities to coach the younger students in the school. The course will enable students to move into a personal trainer or gym instructor role, whilst at university or the next stage in their life.</p>
<i>Further information</i>	<p>Contact Mr Turner (mturner@finborough.school)</p>

<i>Physical Education</i>	
<i>Qualification</i>	A Level
<i>Course outline</i>	At A-Level the course is examined in two part; Theory (70%) and Practical (30%)
<i>Nature of the lessons</i>	The AQA course is predominantly theoretically based and as such the majority of teaching focuses on the theoretical aspects documented below.
<i>Assessment</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper 1: Factors affecting participation in physical activity and sport: Section A: Applied anatomy and physiology, Section B: Skill acquisition, Section C: Sport and society. It is assessed via written exam - 2 hours , 105 marks, 35% of A-level • Paper 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. It is assessed via written exam- 2 hours, 105 marks, 35% of A-level • Non-exam assessment: Practical performance in physical activity and sport: Students are assessed as a performer or coach in the full sided version of one activity. Plus: written/verbal analysis of performance. It is assessed via internal assessment, external moderation, 90 marks, 30% of A-level
<i>Exam board / links to further information</i>	AQA
<i>Links with other subjects / careers</i>	This course provides an excellent foundation for candidates in coaching, sports development, the leisure industry, recreational management, the health and fitness industry and professional sport. It is also a suitable qualification for students wishing to study sports-related or other courses in Higher Education.
<i>Further information</i>	Contact Mr Haycock (shaycock@finborough.school)

<i>Performing Arts</i>	
<i>Qualification</i>	OCR Cambridge Technicals Introductory Diploma in Performing Arts
<i>Course outline</i>	<p>Students Complete 6 units over 2 years which include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skills Development in Performing Arts • Community Arts Project • Professional Practice in Performing Arts • Contemporary Theatre • Theatre in Education • + 1 of a choice of <u>72</u> individual units that include but are not limited to...Musical Theatre, Performance Workshop, Drama Improvisation, Directing, Scriptwriting, Storytelling, several dance units, Stage Management, Make Up, several music and singing units and many more!
<i>Nature of the lessons</i>	These courses dovetail beautifully so that Year 12 and Year 13 do the course at the same time. Some units are undertaken separately as year groups, but some can be combined with everyone on the course. Each unit is practically explored by the students who record video, photograph and written evidence which is collated in their Logbooks.
<i>Assessment</i>	<p>Students work in Logbooks and Practical Performances are assessed in each unit at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distinction* - 56 UCAS points - A* at A Level equivalent • Distinction - 48 UCAS points - A at A Level equivalent • Merit -32 UCAS points - C at A Level equivalent • Pass- 16 UCAS points - E at A Level equivalent
<i>Exam board / links to further information</i>	OCR
<i>Links with other subjects / careers</i>	Students will develop a multitude of skills, including confidence, collaboration, communication, and an understanding of how to amend and refine work in order to make a smooth transition to the next level of study. Possible careers include acting, directing, working in any part of the Performing Arts sector, journalism, law, teaching, event management, public relations and many many more!
<i>Further information</i>	Contact Mr. Bridgeman (jbridgeman@finboroughschool.co.uk)

Performing Arts Skills Awards

<i>Qualification</i>	Students can study this as an extra A level equivalent gaining extra UCAS points and valuable experience in many areas of the Arts
<i>Course outline</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Level equivalent Course but with 100% coursework • Students will work on their areas of specialism within the Arts to gain hugely valuable experience and UCAS Points • Completion of the Gold Arts Award Project over 2 years worth 16 UCAS Points <p>They will be upskilled in whichever area of Performing Arts they are interested in or passionate about doing more of including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Drama - Students will be given extra-acting lessons and be entered for Trinity London Acting Exams at Grade 6 or above worth 8 - 30 UCAS Points depending on level and experience ○ Music - Instrumental coaching from dedicated peripatetic teachers worth 5 - 75 UCAS Points depending on level and experience ○ Dance - worth up to 20 UCAS Points depending on level and experience
<i>Nature of the lessons</i>	<p>Lots of behind the scenes opportunities, teaching of younger students, taking part in top class shows and concerts and running and co-ordinating their own events and entertainment evenings.</p> <p>This could be taken in conjunction with the Cambridge Technicals course, or as a stand alone with other subject choices. Students will work alongside Mr. Bridgeman, Mr. Griffin and Mrs McMillan and complete independent study.</p>
<i>Assessment</i>	<p>The Gold Arts Awards is assessed as follows:</p> <p>Personal arts development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • extending their own arts practice • identifying and being involved in the world of the arts • reviewing arts events/experiences • making the case for an arts issue and communicating the case <p>Leadership of an arts project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • planning a project, identifying the project's aims and outcomes • organising the people and resources • delivering the project and managing its effectiveness • managing a public showing/sharing of the work • reviewing their leadership development
<i>Exam board / links to further information</i>	<u>Arts Award</u>
<i>Links with other subjects / careers</i>	Students will develop a multitude of skills, including confidence, collaboration, communication, and an understanding of how to amend and refine work in order to make a smooth transition to the next level of study. Possible careers include acting, directing, working in any part of the Performing Arts sector, journalism, law, teaching, event management, and public relations
<i>Further information</i>	Contact Mr. Bridgeman (jbridgeman@finboroughschool.co.uk)

<i>Physics</i>	
<i>Qualification</i>	A-Level
<i>Course outline</i>	<p>Physics is an intellectually challenging subject which rewards students with a deeper understanding of how the world works. The course is divided into six modules:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Module 1: Development of practical skills in physics ● Module 2: Foundations in physics ● Module 3: Forces and motion ● Module 4: Electrons, waves and photons ● Module 5: Newtonian world and astrophysics ● Module 6: Particles and medical physics
<i>Nature of the lessons</i>	<p>The A Level Physics course enables students to build on their knowledge of the laws of physics, applying their understanding to solve problems on topics ranging from subatomic particles to the evolution of the universe. Students are given the opportunity to develop all the relevant practical research and communication skills throughout the course.</p>
<i>Assessment</i>	<p>Assessment in Year 13 is by three written papers. Practical skills are assessed in the written papers and there is also a practical endorsement (pass/fail) which is reported separately.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Modelling Physics (100 marks) - 2 hour 15 minutes 2. Exploring Physics (100 marks) 2 hour 15 minutes 3. Unifying Physics (70 marks) - 1 hour 30 minutes
<i>Exam board / links to further information</i>	OCR
<i>Links with other subjects / careers</i>	<p>Students develop practical and problem-solving skills which are relevant to a vast number of career paths.</p> <p>Physics is a fascinating subject, studied at degree level in its own right, and studied at A-level by those wishing to pursue degrees courses such as Engineering, ICT, Medicine, and Architecture.</p> <p>A-level Physics is a highly valued qualification for any career which requires numeracy and logical thought.</p>
<i>Further information</i>	Contact Mr Rande (rrande@finborough.school)

<i>Psychology</i>	
<i>Qualification</i>	A-Level
<i>Course outline</i>	<p>The course is split into 11 topic areas across 3 papers:</p> <p>Paper 1 - Introductory topics in psychology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social influence • Memory • Attachment • Psychopathology <p>Paper 2 - Psychology in Context</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approaches in Psychology • Biopsychology • Research Methods <p>Paper 3 - Issues and Options in Psychology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issues and debates • Gender • Stress • Aggression
<i>Nature of the lessons</i>	<p>A wide range of topics will be studied through whole class teaching and group discussions, online resources and practical research. An important skill to learn will be how to evaluate conflicting theories about the topics you cover. Discussions about research findings will develop this key skill. Some psychological research will be undertaken to improve knowledge of the methods psychologists use.</p>
<i>Assessment</i>	<p>Assessment is by written exam only - 3 x 2 hour papers. The topics in each paper are represented in the 'Course Outline' above.</p>
<i>Exam board / links to further information</i>	<p>AQA</p>
<i>Links with other subjects / careers</i>	<p>Psychology is the study of human behaviour and the mind, so it's an ideal subject choice if you have an interest in understanding human behaviour from a scientific perspective. An A Level Psychology course complements a range of other A levels, including the sciences (e.g. Biology) and the social sciences. Psychology will provide you with the skills required of an undergraduate - an inquiring mind and the ability to use scientific research findings to support and challenge various claims about why people behave the way that they do.</p>
<i>Further information</i>	<p>Contact Mr Collins (bcollins@finborough.school)</p>

<i>Sports Coaching</i>	
<i>Qualification</i>	BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Sports Coaching
<i>Course outline</i>	<p>This course is equivalent in size to one A Level. There are 3 units which all are assessed internally</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Careers in the Sport and Active Leisure Industry 2. Health, Wellbeing and Sport 3. Developing Coaching Skills <p>The course is split over two years looking at unit 1 and 2 combined in one year and unit 3 taking place by itself the year after due to the guided learning hours placed on each unit.</p>
<i>Nature of the lessons</i>	A mixture of theory and practical lessons based in preparation for the assignment briefs and collection of evidence.
<i>Assessment</i>	Assessed through the completion of assignments and tasks which are internally assessed. No exams take place in this subject.
<i>Exam board / links to further information</i>	BTEC Nationals Sports Coaching and Development (2019)
<i>Links with other subjects / careers</i>	<p>Continue studying sport or a related area at university, or seek employment in the sport and active leisure industry.</p> <p>Possible career options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Gym instructor ● Assistant Coach ● Teacher ● Referee ● Strength and conditioning coach ● Personal trainer
<i>Further information</i>	Contact Mr Turner (mturner@finborough.school)

<i>Spanish</i>	
<i>Qualification</i>	A-Level
<i>Course outline</i>	<p>A motivating two-year course of study that will enable students to develop an advanced level knowledge and understanding of the Spanish language, the culture of Spain and other Spanish-speaking countries, as well as practical and valuable language and transferable study skills.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theme 1: La evolución de la sociedad española • Theme 2: La cultura política y artística en el mundo hispanohablante • Theme 3: La inmigración y la sociedad multicultural española • Theme 4: La dictadura franquista y la transición a la democracia
<i>Nature of the lessons</i>	<p>Lessons are taught in Spanish and they are focused on the development of all four language skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing. Grammar and the mastering of linguistic features are key elements in lessons as is the inclusion of authentic written and spoken sources, responding through writing to literature and film, and independent research.</p>
<i>Assessment</i>	<p>Paper 1: Listening, reading and translation (2 hours)</p> <p>Students will be assessed on their understanding of spoken and written Spanish from a variety of types of authentic texts and listening material, as well as their ability to translate accurately from Spanish into English.</p> <p>Paper 2: Written response to works and translation (2 hours 40 minutes)</p> <p>Students must study two discrete Spanish works: either two literary texts, or one literary text and one film.</p> <p>Paper 3: Speaking (21-23 minutes)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Task 1 (discussion on a Theme) • Task 2 (presentation and discussion on student's independent research project)
<i>Exam board / links to further information</i>	Edexcel
<i>Links with other subjects / careers</i>	<p>A language is a very versatile addition to any combination of subjects to be studied at A Level or at university. Language skills can lead directly into a career in translating, interpreting or teaching and are also in high demand in areas such as hospitality, law, publishing and business services.</p>
<i>Further information</i>	Contact Senora Romero (sromero@finborough.school)



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