

Introduction

General Studies offers students in the Sixth form the opportunity to examine contemporary issues, often outside your subject specialisms, but in which you may have a keen interest. It is a useful qualification to have to support university applications and to widen your knowledge and understanding of the world today.



The course co-ordinates topics from across Science and Technology, Society and Politics, Arts and Media, Business & Industry and Beliefs and Values.

It will help you to develop your enquiry and critical thinking skills about interconnecting issues. It will also strengthen your ability to make inferences from data, images and documentary sources, to argue a case and draw reasonable conclusions.

The following are studied at AS level:

- Human aggression; controversy in science and technology
- Tensions in society; politics and the public
- The arts as a challenge; media bias
- The market; business big and small
- The individual and society; tolerance and intolerance
- Space exploration; climate change
- Migration of people; urban and rural
- Art and public space; global media
- Use of the land; buying and selling
- Multiculturalism; green values

Entry requirements

All students take General Studies in the Sixth form, following support sessions throughout the school year. You will take an AS level in January and A2 level in June.

Assessment

There is no coursework to complete in this subject. The examinations consist of two papers at AS level and two papers for A2 level:

Unit 1 : Conflict - 1 ½ hrs - three structured essay questions from a choice of five

Unit 2: Space - 1 ½ hrs - three questions: one based on data, one on images and one on text

Unit 3: Power - 2 hrs - two questions based on four texts

Unit 4: Change - 2 hrs - two data-response essays

See Mr Lancaster for further information